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Vint Hill celebrates
50 years. See page 4.



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Soldiers train in operations area at VHFS in early 1940s. (U.S. Army photo)

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Changes today, growth tomorrow

By CSM Luther Moore Jr.
66th MI Brigade

I don't know that we can say the Army drawdown is in high gear, but it is obviously out of the starting gates and making its way quickly through the ranks. Throughout the brigade there is talk of the drawdown and the recently announced incentives for early separation.

I would venture to say that this is the number one topic in the brigade right now. None of us should be surprised by that. All the talk means is that most of us recognize that the Army is putting its cards on the table and sending a clear and definitive message. At the very least, the service says if you've got a winning hand, stand pat. If you think you have a winning hand, hang around for the final call. But, if your career achievements and accomplishments leave you with just a good bluffing hand, it might be wise to fold.

The reference to a card game is not intended to degrade the sincerity and seriousness of the early separation incentives or of the Army's decision to have a smaller force as we transition into the next century. No, this is not a mere game. The stakes are real and must be looked at in that light.

At stake is your career and how you fit into the Army's plans. For many, the drawdown means that the future is now. Decisions we make today will decide the composition and effectiveness of tomorrow's force.

This brigade's smart soldiers who qualify for these early separation incentives pass my common sense test because they are taking a careful look at what's on the table before throwing in their hand. I'm encouraged by those smart soldiers, but I'm especially interested in those smart soldiers who don't qualify, but who also are taking a careful and thoughtful look at these separation incentives for what they mean in the near term as well as the long term. In both cases, a smart approach to the drawdown benefits the individual as well as the service.

The Army's intent is to reduce its forces gradually over the next few years. Voluntary separation is a major initiative to achieve that reduction. One of the principal enticements is to offer qualified soldiers financial incentives so that they might make the transition to the civilian workforce easier and with no ill feeling for the Army. These incentives are particularly attractive to soldiers who may want to pursue another career but are afraid to do so without a solid financial base.

And, there are some soldiers who may feel cheated by not qualifying for these incentives. That group of soldiers may be a bit shortsighted. Life in the Army is good and promises to get better. Our motivation and enthusiasm must remain high as the service continues to implement its drawdown plans and initiatives. Those selected to remain as part of the

future force will be counted on heavily to meet the demands of tomorrow.

The enlisted soldier stands to be affected most by the drawdown because we comprise the largest percentage of the force. Today's middle and senior NCOs automatically assume the responsibility of keeping the morale and enthusiasm at a level that supports continued good performance. This ongoing responsibility gains intensity over the next several months, but it is one that can be made easier if we offer the soldier a positive picture of what's in store for tomorrow.

To the extent that predicting the future is possible, I see a positive trend toward individual growth in the Army of tomorrow. When the Army revised the retention control points (RCP) for NCOs it sent a strong message against contentment and complacency. The message I received was that with a smaller force and the reduction in the maximum time an NCO can stay on active duty, there is enhanced potential for steady and consistent promotion. Many NCOs who may have lost their ambition will be required to retire.

The revised RCPs ease the potential logjam at the top and inspire young NCOs to continue to strive for the uppermost positions. Sure, there will be fewer NCO positions in the smaller Army, but the number competing for those positions also will be less.

In addition growth potential up and down the NCO ladder will be better, especially for soldiers who have been dedicated performers throughout their careers, but have been stymied by overcrowded career fields. They should expect their promotions to be steady and more consistent with performance. In this equation, quantity gives way to quality.

Soldiers filling the ranks of the Army of tomorrow will be trained and ready, smaller in quantity, but big on quality. They will be the smart soldiers who identify with the goals and enthusiasm of soldiering. They will be the soldiers who derive great joy and pleasure at receiving a task, assessing its difficulty and finding new and better ways of achieving success. They will be the soldiers who seek new challenges, self-discipline, and the camaraderie of a team striving for the same result. They will be the soldiers who recognized that the Army is still a fun and exciting place to begin a career and have that career flourish as much as devotion, dedication and performance will allow. They will be the soldiers who establish a niche for themselves and their families.

When I've reached my maximum time in the service, I'll be able to look at the smart soldiers coming up behind me with a comfortable grin. In them I know I'll see self-motivated soldiers sprinting their way to the very top.

Commander's Corner

Charles F. Scanlon
Major General
Commanding



In recent months, several stories have appeared in the media on the subject of sexual harassment. From the Senate confirmation hearings on Justice Thomas to the Navy's Tailhook Convention investigation, news reports appeared weekly on developments in these and other cases of alleged sexual misconduct.

As your commander, let me make clear that it is my firm belief and commitment that no soldier or civilian employee, regardless of sex, should be subjected to the demeaning and degrading treatment of sexual harassment. Military leaders, officers, noncommissioned officers, and civilian supervisors, cannot and should not tolerate, condone, or ignore sexual harassment. To do so undermines the morale, effectiveness, and cohesiveness that exemplify the best organizations and units.

We at INSCOM pride ourselves on being able to accomplish the mission. Similarly, the history of our Army, as validated by our recent experience in the Middle East, indicates that when well trained, equipped, and led, our soldiers are capable of achieving remarkable results under the most exacting conditions. Conversely, in Iraq we also witnessed the defeat of a modern Army whose leadership did not value the worth of the individual soldier. Sexual harassment, at its core, devalues and debases individual worth and accomplishments. It is debilitating to an Army and unworthy of a great institution.

Our duty, not only as leaders, but as responsible citizens, is to maximize the opportunity for every soldier and civilian employee in INSCOM to realize his or her full potential. When we do this, we establish the foundation for successful mission accomplishment. The military leader or civilian supervisor who tolerates the distrust, animosity, and loss of individual self worth generated by sexual harassment is

undermining the very foundation which makes the difference between a unit's success or failure in combat. In the everyday conduct of our business, it makes the difference between a happy, productive soldier or employee and one who is not.

As a point of departure in determining whether a particular set of facts constitutes sexual harassment, the Army's policy on sexual harassment, found in AR 600-20, makes it clear:

Any soldier or civilian employee is engaging in sexual harassment who—

- a. Through behavior of a sexual nature attempts to control, influence, or affect the career, pay, or job of a soldier or civilian employee.
- b. Makes deliberate or repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature that are offensive to the person to whom addressed.
- c. Makes abusive physical contact of a sexual nature.

I encourage all of the soldiers and civilian employees in the INSCOM family to examine their conduct in light of this standard, modify their conduct where necessary, and report through command, Inspector General, Equal Opportunity, or Staff Judge Advocate channels incidents of sexual harassment.

All reports will be promptly and thoroughly investigated and, when necessary, appropriate corrective action taken. Sexual harassment is conduct which we, as an organization and an Army, cannot tolerate now or in the future. I ask you to help me continue to make INSCOM a command in which sexual harassment is not tolerated and in which everyone is treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Mission First, People Always.

"Every Vote Counts"

Raymond McKnight
Command Sergeant Major
INSCOM



The Constitution of the United States provides many civil liberties and freedoms we sometimes take for granted. The freedom we share as Americans was not easily won. The sacrifice and cost in lives is well known. Today's Army continues to defend our rights as American citizens just as generations before. By casting our votes, we exercise the freedom for which our comrades have given their lives.

One privilege won in the battle for freedom is the right to fair and equal representation in government. Citizens have the right and morale obligation to select their nation's leadership.

Americans have a poor record of participating in the voting process. The military is not an exception. According to statistics released by the Federal Voting Assistance Program, only 55 percent of the active duty forces voted in the 1988 presidential election. Approximately 60 percent of Army soldiers are married. Additionally, a percentage of families have children of voting age. Literally hundreds of thousands of soldiers and family members fail to cast votes in local, state, and federal elections. If we all vote, the total Army family would have considerable impact on the selection of the government that dictates its behavior.

A large percentage of soldiers have never voted and are reluctant to participate because they are unaware of the procedures for registration and absentee voting. Noncommissioned officers must educate and assist their soldiers. Information on each state's elections must be made available to soldiers, families, and Department of Defense civilians. Voting must be emphasized for local and state elections held annually as well as for presidential elections. The unit's voting assistance officer can provide information and is

available to assist the noncommissioned officer in their effort to educate their soldiers.

Information on a candidate's political points of view can be obtained from newspapers, speeches, and other forms of media. I would also recommend you call someone you trust and get their opinion on the local candidates before casting your vote. If you choose to contact incumbent officials directly, their names and addresses are available from your voting assistance officer.

Perhaps the main obstacle to voting is the misconception that one vote out of thousands cast could not possibly affect the outcome of an election. In reality, many political races have been determined by a small number of votes. Officials have been elected solely on the basis of absentee ballots. By voting, you can make a difference while fulfilling a basic responsibility of citizenship.

This fall is a presidential election. Soldiers, family members, and civilians will have the opportunity to help select our Commander-in-Chief. Additionally, many states will select local, state, and federal representatives who will define the laws we live by. We can influence this selection process and help select the leaders that legislate into law the rules that govern our livelihood and future.

Soldiers have and will continue to sacrifice their lives to carry out the orders which support the laws of our nation. As leaders, we must encourage our soldiers and their families to exercise their constitutional rights we have all sworn to uphold and defend. Soldiers will care if their leadership shows they care. Together we CAN make a difference; let us all vote and be counted!

Colonel attended Crypto School at Vint Hill Farms

By Richard B. Mosser
Col., USA (Retired)

Col. Richard B. Mosser, USA (Retired), was a long-time member of the Army Security Agency. In the following article, he tells about his experiences at Vint Hill Farms Station shortly after the post opened in June 1942. Vint Hill Farms Station served as a monitoring station and as the home of the Army's Cryptologic School.

One of the less boring but more frustrating chores that fell to selected students was that of guard duty. During the hours of darkness, guards were assigned walking posts that took them along the rough roads which consisted of coarse, two inch gravel. The walking posts averaged about a half-mile in length, and were unlit. Unless there was moonlight, the sentries stumbled along in the dark, scuffing their shoes on the

rocks and hoping that they would not trip and fall into the adjacent ditches.

The guards were not given flashlights, but were "armed" with unloaded pump type 12 gauge shotguns. There was always speculation about why no ammunition was issued if there was a real need for security. The probability was that company officers were afraid that the novice soldiers would shoot themselves by accident, or worse, the Officer of the Day, or a fellow student going to a latrine or sleepwalking.

Whatever the reason, it was a lonely and uneasy feeling tramping along on a cold, clear night in the quiet of the rustic setting. There was little air pollution then, and the stars shone brightly. So the sentries watched the stars and waited for the



The barn at Vint Hill Farms as it looked before being taken over by the U.S. Army during WWII. The barn was

renovated and used as the operations area. (U.S. Army photo)

visit of the Officer of the Day to their post. After challenging, the officer would approach and ask the guard to recite one or more of the General Orders. Few students had trouble reciting the words or numbers by rote - the question was whether the Officer of the Day would remember correctly.

As sentry duty became routine, students experienced boredom and discomfort more than concern about enemy agents lurking behind the trees and bushes. So far as is known, the Axis command never attempted to infiltrate or sabotage the very vulnerable Vint Hill. If they had tried, and encountered our unarmed guards clicking the pump actions of their unloaded shotguns, they might well have become casualties by laughing themselves to death.

Another duty which came around with disturbing frequency was kitchen police. If the students had not been so miserable, they would have enjoyed the spectacle of the regular Army Kitchen staff dealing with the bewildered intelligentsia. Some of the students had spent their lives in academia, never learning to work with their hands. To them, hard work in the kitchen was initially a foreign world. Former college professors and executives walked around aimlessly with dazed looks in their eyes. Scrubbing pots and pans, peeling vegetables, serving tables, and hauling garbage were distasteful tasks that had to be learned the hard way. But learn them they did, and before long they were working efficiently and finding ways to beat the system with the least effort possible.

Mess Sergeant Elder and other mess supervisors and cooks looked on the KP's with contempt, which was heartily reciprocated. Finally, an uneasy accommodation was reached and only occasionally breached when a meal such as burned or overcooked meat of questionable origin, soggy greens, and grits were served. There was an excess of garbage and a shortage of bread and butter. Although good materials were provided, it seemed that the cooks did only what they had to do to get by, and there was a great demand for candy bars and supplements to the student diet. On the other hand, it must be said that the traditional Thanksgiving and Christmas Day meals were well done, perhaps because of company officer concern at those times.

The undeclared war between the cadre and the students was conducted on other fronts. During the early days, when adequate school facilities did not exist, more time was spent on labor details than in school. In fact, there were many weeks in which some students spent one out of five days in school. The rest of the time they spent in healthy outdoor activities such as clearing brush in the wooded areas where the barracks and school-to-be were located, building gravel roads and paths, or working in the antenna field.

The forced laborers began to devise ways to beat the system and annoy their tormentors, the cadre. There were enough supervisors to oversee everything, and soon tools began to disappear mysteriously. In addition to normal wear and tear, handles on hammers, picks, shovels, and rakes would break. The attrition on teeth in rakes was remarkable. The Army supply system simply could not keep the details supplied with usable tools. Superior intelligence scored again.



This was a guard post at Vint Hill Farms Station in early 1942. (U.S. Army photo)

Such problems were the subject at reveille and other formations. Sgt. Hodges and Capt. Fragassi would announce that certain practices were to cease immediately, to the covert glee of the students. One announcement that was frequently made was that troops would use only eight sheets of toilet paper per person per day. The Army supply system permitted only eight sheets, and that was it. This might have been adequate under normal circumstances. But the daily demand far exceeded the supply. Even though students might have been inclined to cooperate with the eight sheets dictum, there were frequent cases of the "G.I.'s" (gastrointestinal upsets) or diarrhea.

The G.I.'s might have been caused by viruses or bacteria passed among the troops, but it was far more probable that poor sanitation of food or utensils caused the problem. It was even more likely that failure to properly rinse the issued yellow G.I. (governmental issue) soap from pots, pans, and dishes caused the problem. There was little student concern about constipation; there was much worry about the G.I.'s. The toilet paper shortage was solved with newspapers, magazines, and whatever else was available — recycling was not a concern then.

One detail accepted, if not appreciated, by students was work in the antenna field. Much of construction labor used in building the intercept station's antenna field was provided by students. There was a small cadre of signal construction troops at the farm, with an earth auger of the type used to set

telephone poles. There was also a mobile "A-frame" on a truck which was used to raise and emplace the larger poles which served as the bases for the intercept antennas.

Most of the antennas were diamond shaped rhombics. Some had sides or legs several hundred feet in length. Their sharp ends pointed toward their targets, which were transmitters thousands of miles away. Each rhombic required four large poles - some 40 to 50 feet in height. There were other types of antennas as well, "sloping vees," dipoles and double dipoles, and curtains. Each antenna was connected to the patchboard in the intercept by means of a transmission line. These were generally four continuous strands of hard copper wire strung through holes about two inches apart in square, ceramic insulators. The transmission lines led in reasonable straight paths from the antenna terminal to the Barn, as the intercept station was known.

The Barn (Operations Area) was built to look just like other barns on neighboring farms. Its structure, roof, and silo were to be a disguise to fool the enemy - "There's no intercept station here!" But to even a casual observer, the forest of antenna poles, gleaming copper antennas and porcelain insulators, and the distinctive transmission lines proceeding radially into the Barn would indicate that this was not an ordinary farm. The complete absence of cows, horses, other live stock, farm machinery, or any crops, might also be suspicious. At any rate, there was no known overt enemy attack on Vint Hill Farms Station during World War II, so we must have succeeded in fooling the enemy - or he had more important things to do.

Later, the students may have looked back with a sense of pride to their accomplishments in the antenna field. But at the time, they felt like unskilled laborers. Teams of students carried the smaller 10-to-20-foot poles and cross beams that later became the transmission lines. They distributed them along the chosen routes from the antennas to the Barn. They helped to manhandle all of the components, until finally the major parts were in place. Unaware of the technical details, the students knew that at least through this work, they had contributed something to the war effort.

Once school began in earnest in the newly constructed facilities, there was more emphasis on training and less on details. Physical training (P.T.) was scheduled several times each week. The junior officers took turns leading the P.T. drills, with various degrees of ineptness, to the mixed amusement and disdain by the students. Lt. Callimahos was one of the better P.T. leaders. He seemed to enjoy orchestrating the masses through side-straddle hops, running in place, and sit-ups. Perhaps it was his sense of rhythm and his musical ability.

On one sunny early Spring day, there was an incident to be remembered. Lt. Callimahos had a young Doberman Pinscher called Lightning. The dog was best known for his propensity in chasing flashlight beams throughout the area. On this day, Lt. Callimahos had mounted the elevated platform from which the P.T. drills were led, and had laid his overseas hat on the edge of the structure. Lightning was full of mischief. Playfully, he snatched it and ran off. Lt. Calli-

mahos quickly assessed the situation, and leaped off the platform and sped after the prancing dog, shouting "Halt" to the dog and the laughing students. Later, there was a rumor that the dog had a nervous breakdown, and had to be shot.

After Saturday inspections, those students who had passed inspection and were not on detail for the weekend were free to leave on pass. Some spent their time in the countryside, some in nearby Warrenton, and some went to Washington, D.C. The procedure was to walk from the front gate to the intersection of what is now Routes 29 and 215, a distance of about a mile and a half. They would crowd into commercial buses there for a ride into the Washington bus station, several blocks from Union Station.

Washington was a hospitable town of the students, with the U.S.O. activities, and many other ways to spend their time. Some caught trains to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, or to points south. Whatever destination, the object was to catch a train back which would get one to the bus station just before midnight, in order to catch the late bus for Vint Hill Farms Station. At times, the demand for the bus was such that a line formed which wound several times around the station.

The night-time buses to Vint Hill would stop at the same intersection where they had picked up the students, drop them, and proceed back to Washington for another load. The last bus would leave about 1:30 a.m. and after the ride and the hike back to the Farm, students would crawl into bed about 3 a.m. hardly rested before reveille at 6 a.m.

Although the wake-up shouts began at 5:45 a.m. and the lights came on, some students stayed in bed until the last minute. Then they joined the charge out to the roads and stumbled into the dark to find their platoon's formation. The late-sleepers did not have time to dress, and threw their overcoats on over the long underwear most slept in during that first winter. This practice was soon discovered, and frowned on. Surprise "Open Your Overcoats" inspections with flashlights were held frequently and those daring to risk the cold in their underwear were discovered and gigged - not for indecent exposure, but for being out of uniform.

To the average student, school days consisted of sitting at field tables and working at elementary cryptanalysis. There were exercises in simple cipher substitution, two and four-square systems, Playfair systems, transpositions, and even simple codes. There was little formal instruction, students were mainly responsible on their own for analyzing and solving their problems following a book and prepared text. Techniques such as frequency counts and patterns of letters were taught, but it was up to the individual, with occasional coaching to solve the problem and proceed to the next. It was fun for some, particularly if they made regular progress. but occasionally, there was the problem which seemed unsolvable, (often due to oversights, and failure to follow the prescribed techniques) and coaching by the instructors was necessary.

Some students quickly recognized that a career as a cryptanalyst was not for them, and they failed to progress and were washed out. The official rumor was that those failing the course were transferred to the Infantry and sent overseas.



Soldiers training at Vint Hill Farms Station during World War II. (U.S. Army photo)

Of course, the Army used the usual procedures of preferences and aptitudes in making assignments, but the threat of combat arms assignments spurred some students on to achievements beyond their normal capacity.

As signal intelligence units were organized and manned, and when replacements were needed, groups of students were selected and prepared for overseas assignments. Even with frequent assignment to outside details and the periodic P.T., the sedentary student life hardly prepared one to be combat ready. So several junior officers were given the chore of taking groups of students and toughening them up. One such officer, 2d Lt. Mann, who was a physical fitness devotee, thoroughly enjoyed this duty.

One unfortunate group, which called itself "Mann's Commandos" underwent daily calisthenics, forced marches, and double-timing to all of its destinations. The countryside proved ideal for such exercises, and the group explored the many country roads, lanes, and fields surrounding Vint Hill. Although its members were initially sore and stiff and miserable from the unfamiliar stress to their bodies, they developed a stubborn pride and esprit-de-corps. And while a few of its older, less fit members almost had heart attacks, as they became harder and more fit, the group began to consider itself above the common student body.

Some students were relieved from the Cryptographic School and assigned to duty in the intercept station Barn. Here they applied some of the principles learned in school to

basic traffic analysis. Under the guidance of Sgt. Richard Lee, one of Robert E. Lee's relatives, they screened piles of intercepted messages. These generally fell into the categories of government or diplomatic, military, commercial, and private.

One of the tasks of the novice traffic analysts was to screen the messages for certain types of codes identifiable by indicators - combinations of numbers or letters. When these were spotted, they were transmitted by courier to be analyzed at Arlington Hall Station. Analysts also looked for certain key addresses or signatures which would denote traffic of interest.

The traffic analysts also logged the numbers and flows of messages to and from various cities or entities. They counted the daily messages and noted deviations in normal activities and transmitting schedules, and reported high priorities and abnormalities in flow, and unusual message routing. They looked for special names and designations in some commercial and private messages which had some significance to analysts elsewhere.

The initial intercept operators and their supervisors were a professional crew. Most had been transferred from another intercept location at Sandy Hook, New Jersey. The majority of the interceptors were sergeants with several years of experience. Once operations began at the Barn, they tuned their intercept receivers and copied traffic directly "off the air,"



Operations at Vint Hill Farms Station during World War II. (U.S. Army photo)

usually using typewriters with all capital letters, known as “mills.” The experienced foreign communicators exchanging messages in Europe sent precise, uniform signals at speeds averaging from 25 to 30 words per minute (WPM). If they used simple devices known as “bugs”, which allowed them to send dots and dashes with mechanical assistance, they could transmit as high as 35 or 40 WPM.

Such high speed manual transmissions were beyond the capability of most interceptors to copy “live” or directly off the air. There were a few extraordinarily talented and experienced operators, such as then Technical Sergeant “Pete” Ballyk, who could copy transmissions sent as fast as 50 WPM or more. The legendary Ballyk habitually kept a cigar in his mouth or his left hand, and could copy the high speed signals using a pencil and paper or a typewriter. This was attributed to a technique called “copying behind,” whereby the interceptor could record several signal groups in his mind, while writing the groups sent previously on a pad. Even the ordinary interceptors had to learn to copy several letters or up to a group behind the speed at which they were writing or typing.

It was said the Ballyk, who later became a Warrant Officer, also had a unique sixth-sense, or ability to know when important targets would transmit. This was undoubtedly due in part to his extensive knowledge of their normal transmitting schedules and habits. However, there was one story of Ballyk waking up in the middle of the night and muttering, “He’s sending!” and proceeding to the Barn. He arrived, tuned his receiver, and found indeed that an important target enemy transmitter had begun an unscheduled transmission. Of course, Ballyk copied the traffic, and it was duly sent for analysis.

Some of the experienced noncommissioned officers were selected to go to Officer Candidate School (OCS) and after

commissioning, came back to be supervisors at the Barn. Lieutenants Harry Merrill and Bernard Williams were examples. Others became Warrant Officers, such as “Moe” O’Halloran and Mr. Gogats. They were “Watch Officers” who supervised groups of operators who worked as teams or “tricks.”

Each trick was normally eight hours, and on a normal 24-hour day, three tricks worked eight hours each, while one trick was off. The tricks rotated so that they shared working days, evenings (or swings), or “mids” from midnight to eight in the morning. Depending on target activity in Europe, which was normally five to eight hours ahead of local Washington, D.C. time, it was sometimes necessary to have more operators working on “mids” and “permanent” mid-shift was assigned to some.

Many of the target signals were copied by hand or typewriter using multicopy paper with carbons inserted, in the early days by hand, and later in machine assembled form. But some target stations used automatic Morse transmitters in an effort to speed up communications or avoid casual intercept. It was necessary to record these transmissions and then use techniques to slow them up so that they could be read by the average interceptor.

One technique for recording high-speed Morse signals was to use standard Dictaphones, such as were then used by business stenographers, to record them and later to read or transcribe them onto paper. The Dictaphone of those days used wax cylinders on which the sound was recorded. The sounds or Morse signals recorded on the cylinder were then “played back” by the interceptor and copied by typewriter or on a pad. This allowed the operator to replay parts of the transmission over and over until he was certain that the transcription was complete and accurate.

However, wax cylinders had their own unique hazard. If

the operator dropped the cylinder, or a box full, even with padded sides, there was an explosive sound, and fragments of wax flew in every direction. Hopefully, the signals had been transcribed before the cylinders broke up, for they could not be reconstructed. After the cylinder had been transcribed, the practice was to shave them by machine so that future signals could be recorded on a clear surface. Again, this was a delicate operation, particularly once the cylinders had been used many times, and it was not unusual to hear the tell-tale shattering and cursing which indicated that another cylinder had bit the dust.

Later, Radio Corporation of America introduced a recorder that substituted a red plastic belt spanned between two rollers in lieu of the wax cylinder. While unbreakable, the plastic belts did have a seam which sometimes played havoc with the recording needle, and were perhaps less sensitive than the wax cylinders. But they served during the latter part of World War II, until the advent of magnetic recorders.

Another way of recording high speed Morse was to use a pen that undulated back and forth indicating on a narrow paper tape the dots, dashes, and spaces between of a transmission. The pens were fed ink from two-inch cylinders, and these caused unique problems, as well. Pens clogged by ink, spattering ink, failure to replace rolls of tape, and hard-to-read tapes due to irregular tape speeds were frequent occur-

rences to unwary or forgetful operators. However, once an operator learned to read the tapes by skimming the inked profiles of dots and dashes along the top line on the tape, transcribing the signals was a relatively easy job. Speed of transcription varied with the reading and typing skills of the operator.

A Morse Code training effort was established on the second floor of the Barn. It trained intercept operators who were used in the Barn or deployed to radio intercept units or overseas intercept stations. Those trained to intercept German signals were given the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) of 738. The idea of being an intercept operator, with the rumored potential of better promotions and more exciting work, was attractive to some cryptanalytic students and others, and there were a number of volunteers for the code training. A number of volunteers whose code aptitudes and personal attitudes were compatible with intercept work, successfully passed the course and became interceptors.

Some of the student operators were selected for transfer to Two Rock Ranch Station in Petaluma, California. This was an intercept station similar to that at Vint Hill Farms Station, disguised to resemble a local chicken ranch typical of that area. It had as its primary mission the interception of Japanese Telegraph Code. But that's another story for another history.



Golden Anniversary Celebration

Vint Hill Farms' Golden Anniversary Celebration includes honor guards, military bands, drill teams, burying a time capsule, historical tours, sporting events, and food concessions. In addition to these activities, Vint Hill Farms' planned activities include static displays, open air concerts, a 2nd Signal Service Battalion reunion dinner, and a picnic. A military reception will be held, as well as a Golden Anniversary Ball.

The celebration is entitled "Then and Now" and provides an opportunity for former soldiers and the local community, who made the Farm what it is today, a chance to return, reminisce and revel in 50 years of somewhat "invisible" but remarkable service.

The Golden Anniversary Celebration takes place on June 12 and 13. A fireworks extravaganza will complete the celebration.

Farewell to the Last Outpost of Freedom

By SSgt. Susan Dowdee
FS Berlin

January 16, 1992 is a day that no one in Field Station Berlin (FSB) will ever forget. The soldiers of FSB formed for a final review by Maj. Gen. Charles F. Scanlon, Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) commander and Col. Carol Hemphill, FSB commander, in Field Station Berlin's farewell ceremony. The ceremony marked the end of the "Last Outpost of Freedom" and the end of the era of accomplishments and contributions to the community and the nation.

Maj. Gen. John Stewart, deputy commander, Special Intelligence USAREUR, Brig. Gen.(P) Walter Yates, Berlin Brigade commander, MI commanders from throughout Europe, and other distinguished guests were witnesses to the casing of Operations Battalion and Field Station Berlin's colors.

Lt. Col.(P) John Burns, Jr. and CSM Donald Hanlin (Operations Battalion commander and Command Sergeant Major) cased the Operations Battalion colors. Spec. Diane Headen, FSB Soldier of the Year, retired the colors, officially closing Operations Battalion companies and reassigning them

to Support Battalion.

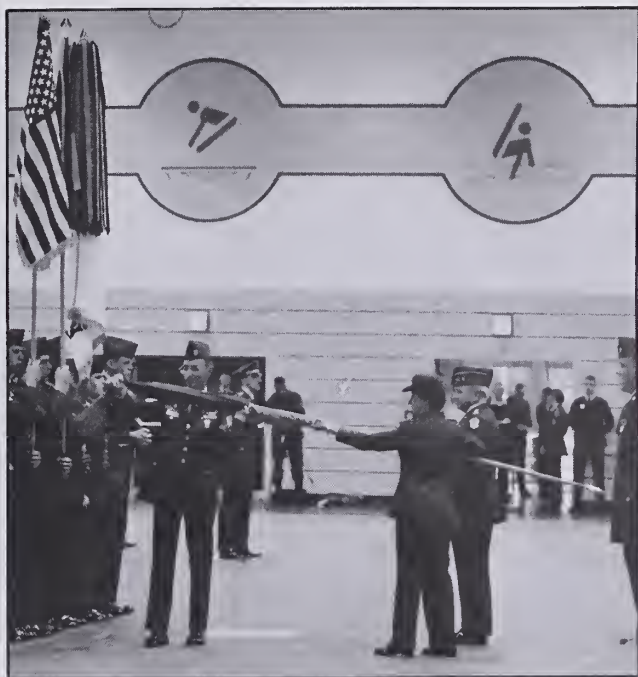
Silently, the Field Station colors were taken from their color guard and solemnly cased by Col. Hemphill and CSM James Prock, FSB Command Sergeant Major. SSgt. Michael Roberts, Field Station Berlin's NCO of the Year, retired the colors, marking the end of an era. (The Field Station Berlin colors are now on display at INSCOM headquarters, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.)

Maj. Gen. Scanlon delivered a heartfelt speech, praising the hard work and dedication of the long line of soldiers and civilians of FSB. He then read a personal message from VADM Studeman, Director of the National Security Agency (NSA), stating that "The very fact that we are today reducing the field station to a Closure Task Force is in many ways one final recognition of its success—that it did its duty so well, it is no longer needed." Maj. Gen. Scanlon conveyed to every member of the organization, past and present, VADM Studeman's personal—and NSA's collective—thanks for a job well



Lt. Col. John Burns (right) and CSM Donald Hanlin (center) case Operations Battalion colors as Col. Carol

Hemphill (center), Commander, Field Station Berlin, looks on. (U.S. Army photo)



Col. Carol Hemphill (center) and CSM James Prock (left, facing front) case Field Station Berlin colors as Maj. Gen. Charles Scanlon, (right, back) INSCOM's Commander, looks on. (U.S. Army photo)

done, and his best wishes for his continued success in the future.

Col. Hemphill had a more personal approach, sincerely thanking everyone, individually and in groups, whose work made her tenure here as commander so interesting and enjoyable. She also conveyed her appreciation to the commanders of our fellow Berlin-based units, Allied and American, and to Lt. Col. Baumert of the Bundeswehr, who for the first time was able to attend a Berlin ceremony in uniform. Col. Hemphill's final words to her soldiers were: "To everyone who has ever been assigned to Field Station Berlin and to all members of the command, I wish you success in the future, whether that is as a civilian, a Reservist, or an active duty soldier. Your legacy of 'On Watch' lives on in those you have trained and motivated. God Bless, Godspeed, On Watch!"

As the ceremony drew to a close, so did Field Station Berlin. The final chapter has yet to be written, as we still have a mission to accomplish as Task Force Berlin (Provisional). The Task Force commander is Lt. Col.(P) John Burns, Jr. Support Battalion (Provisional) is comprised of five companies: Headquarters and Services, Alpha, Bravo (Detachment Wobeck), Charlie and Delta. Lt. Col. Donald Riedel, commander, Support Battalion (Provisional), summed up the future for Task Force Berlin, "We are now one team, one mission."

Field Station Berlin soldiers, civilians, and their families, past and present, can feel justifiably proud of this unit's long lineage.

The U.S. Army Field Station Berlin traces its origins back to the 280th U.S. Army Security Agency (USASA) Company

which was organized on Oct. 15, 1957 to consolidate all USASA assets which had been operating in Berlin, Germany. At this time the 280th had an authorized strength of seven officers, two warrant officers, and 136 enlisted personnel.

The 280th was redesignated the 78th USASA Special Operations Unit on June 15, 1961. Though the unit has utilized various operational sites throughout West Berlin, the 78th first located mobile equipment at Teufelsberg in July 1961 and in 1963 a semi-permanent site was constructed, followed later by permanent facilities. On June 22, 1966 the 78th was once again redesignated as the 54th Special Operations Command and in March 1967 was internally organized in H&S Company, A Company, and Company B. On Dec. 15, 1967, the 54th changed to the USASA Field Station Berlin.

From the time of its organization in 1957 as the 280th USASA Company, the Field Station was assigned first to Headquarters, USASA, Europe, then to HQ USASA until Jan. 1, 1977, and finally to HQ USASA's successor, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command. On May 1, 1977, the Field Station underwent one last redesignation to the U.S. Army Field Station Berlin.

In 1987, 36 years after its inception, Field Station Berlin was reorganized into a brigade-level command, with two distinct battalions, Operations and Support, and a Detachment from the U.S. Army Information Systems Command (USAISC).

The primary operations site of Field Station Berlin is located on top of Teufelsberg, or "Devil's Mountain," in the Gruenewald Forest in the western part of Berlin. This hill, constructed from the debris which resulted from the destruction of Berlin during World War II, has been the site of our communications facilities since 1972. Further operations are carried out by B Company, Support Battalion, at a remote location near the town of Wobeck in central Germany. Although operations are conducted at these two sites, the administrative elements and billets are located at Andrews Barracks in southern Berlin.

Operationally, FSB has continued its success in supporting theater- and national-level security interests. All soldiers and civilians assigned have been in the vital front line of the rapid communications and secure voice operations which are so essential to our national security and that of our allies.

The past few years have seen the Field Station reach new heights in technical proficiency and professionalism. On Oct. 25, 1991, FSB was presented with the INSCOM Commanding General's Awards for Maintenance, Supply, and Configuration Excellence. Also, in 1991, both Field Station Berlin's dining facilities were winners of the INSCOM Philip A. Connelly Award for Food Service Excellence and First Runner-up of the Army-wide Connelly Award for the Large Facility Category. In 1991, the 5th Signal Command Commanding General's Award for Supply Excellence was presented to USAISC-Berlin for their outstanding supply system.

The success of all soldiers and civilians led FSB to winning the prestigious Department of Defense Travis Trophy for 1973, 1981, 1985, and 1989, and receiving the equally prestigious Army Superior Unit Award for 1983 and 1989.



Mary Ann McKnight (standing) talks with the delegates at the conference while Sgt. Maj. Tim Dronsfield, ODCSPER sergeant major and Marla Troup, Chief,

Human Resources Division, INSCOM ODCSPER, listen in. (Photos by Sgt. Eric E. Parris)

Family program promotes care, concern and compassion

By Sgt. T. K. Gilmore and
Sgt. Eric E. Parris
701st MI Brigade

Displaying care, compassion and concern for military, family members and civilians was the overriding theme for the delegates who attended the INSCOM European Army Family Action Plan Conference recently held in Augsburg. The forum included representatives from the 66th MI Bde, 701st MI Bde, Task Force Berlin, SINOP (Turkey), CSG (Heidelberg) and the USA Russian Institute (Garmisch). Heading the forum were Marla Troup, Chief, Human Resources Division, USA INSCOM, ODCSPER, Fort Bel-

voir, VA., SGM Tim Dronsfield, ODCSPER Sergeant Major and Mary Ann McKnight, wife of INSCOM CSM Raymond McKnight, representing the family members' aspect of all issues.

During the two-day forum, 1991 issues were addressed in reference to their current status; and new issues were raised, put in order of importance and suggestions made by all in attendance on the possible avenues of approach and where problems may arise further down the road.

Dronsfield opened the conference

with remarks on the family action process. The command is behind this program 100 percent, he stated. "Maj. Gen. Scanlon is very concerned about soldiers and their families," said Dronsfield, who gave an overview of 1991 and stressed the elements for success in 1992-partnership, wellness and a sense of community.overview of 1991 and stressed the elements for success in 1992; "partnership, wellness and a sense of community."

The 66th MI Brigade looked closely at Augsburg when considering their is-

sues, simply because this is to be their new home. Their issues included Child Development Services.

The AAFES garage was the next topic from the 66th MI Brigade, inquiring about the quality of the mechanics and availability of automobile parts. This particular issue needed more research to establish whether this problem was theater-wide or local.

Under the realm of the Staff Judge Advocate, there was the issue of Powers of Attorney for the care of children while parents are absent. The problem raised was the fact that some states within CONUS did not accept the Powers of Attorney while other states do. This issue will be raised through the SJA avenue before being brought to other levels.

Failure of the mail services in Europe was the next subject raised by the 66th MI representative. This concern was supported by several other representatives in attendance, as well. The time factor involved in regular mail and what is called 'express' type mailings was

the basis of the complaint. This issue will have to be raised with the higher channels of the postal system.

In direct regard to the movement of 66th MI to the Augsburg area, the often heard issue was raised in reference to the medical care available and what options were going to be established. Recent news releases have shed some light on the topic of closure for the 34th General Hospital and as information is available, the community will be informed.

Due to the realignment of the Civilian Personnel Office, and the involvement of the Nurnburg facility, there seems to have been a slow down in the processing of paperwork. The 66th MI brought this to the attention of the delegates and asked that a more efficient setup be established. The DCSPER SGM stated that this issue was already being worked on at higher levels.

The last item brought forth by the 66th MI representative was the issue of federal assistance such as the Women, Infants, Children's program and food

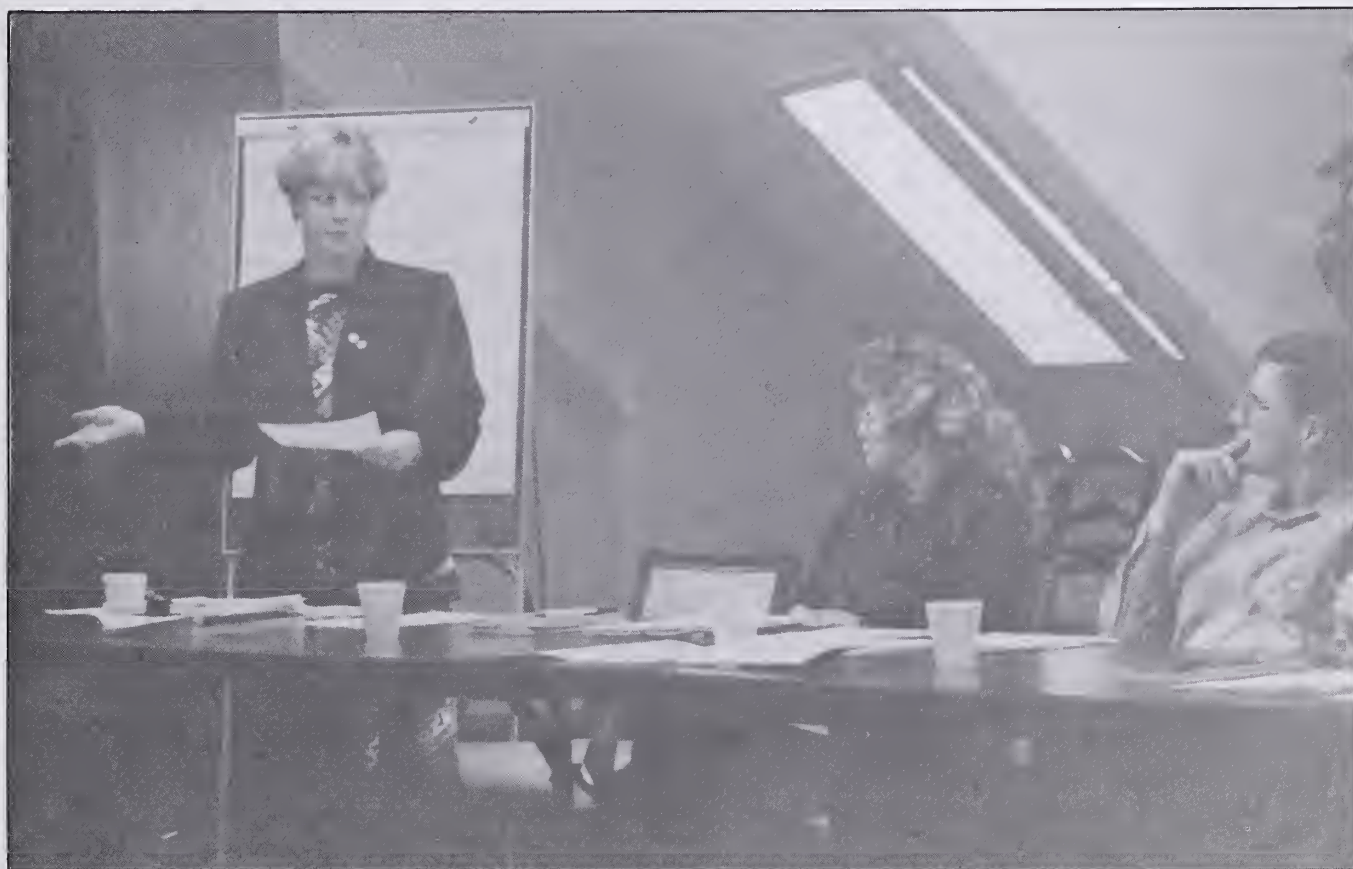
stamps. Asking why these options are made available to soldiers and their families in CONUS, it was suggested that the same option be considered for those OCONUS.

Representing the 701st MI Brigade, Sharon Lowry brought forward the next issues. The first was the Exceptional Family Member Program and why it appeared that family members were not being provided proper information prior to their arrival in Europe.

Lowry asked if soldiers could be more informed as to what can and cannot be cared for in the area they are being shipped to.

In an effort to support the smoker who has 'tried it all,' Lowry inquired what the feasibility of a live-in program for smokers would be. Much like the ADAPC live-in program for individuals with other addictions, Lowry suggested the same option be available for the nicotine addict who desired to quit.

With the topic of money at the forefront, Lowry then asked why soldiers who were able to locate flights for lower



Sharon Lowry (standing), 701st MI Bde AFAP representative, discusses the Brigade's issues during the conference.

rates had to stick to the flights set up for them by the government. Lowry suggested that soldiers have the option to take the cheapest rates available, including non-U.S. carriers, if they desire to save the government money.

For the pet-lover who had to find a place for their pet while they were put up temporarily in a guest house that does not allow pets, Lowry asked if families could have the option of keeping pets in the guest house or some facility other than a costly kennel. Also, on the topic of pets, came the question of why soldiers have to pay for the transportation of their additional family members (pets). Why not reimburse the soldier for this expense, as the family pet is considered by many to be an integral part of the family as a whole.

Limited use of the four-year, active duty ROTC scholarships was the next issue raised by the 701st MI representative. Why must these scholarships be used at historically black universities instead of leaving the option open for all educational facilities?

Remaining on the education topic, it was suggested that the availability of

educational opportunities be clarified for individuals prior to their arrival in the community.

Joining in the CDS issues, it was also suggested that it would be a possibility to ask Department of the Army if an Additional Skill Identifier or Military Occupational Specialty could be developed, soldiers trained, and the staffing at the CDC supplemented with soldiers desiring to obtain the proper education to assist.

Finally, in regard to non-custodial parents, Lowry asked if there could be an established program to allow parents to be provided one round-trip flight annually to visit their children who are living with custodial parents in CONUS.

The other representatives echoed some topics of concern such as the child care issues, and adding spouse difficulties, standardized housing, treatment of single soldiers, family member employment, transportation of family members to other than CONUS locations during separation, POV movement for single soldiers who cannot take their POVs on tours, discontinuing restriction of family members in certain areas, bettering

educational opportunities, exchanging uniforms one for one, getting DoDDs high school athletics statistics recognized for scholarship purposes, inadequate medical and dental care, and more.

The variety of issues directly reflected the needs of the individual communities and clearly relayed the voices of the communities to the INSCOM delegates.

These numerous issues were only a sample of topics being dealt with by the AFAP due to innumerable topics being settled at lower levels. Those topics brought forward will fall into different categories such as local, INSCOM or DA level coordination.

Those taken to the INSCOM level have been thoroughly researched locally and will be further investigated by the Human Resources Division with continual communication between communities and INSCOM. INSCOM then makes recommendation as to what level the issue should be handled.

Voicing the INSCOM commanding general's concerns, Troup asked that the following be met locally:

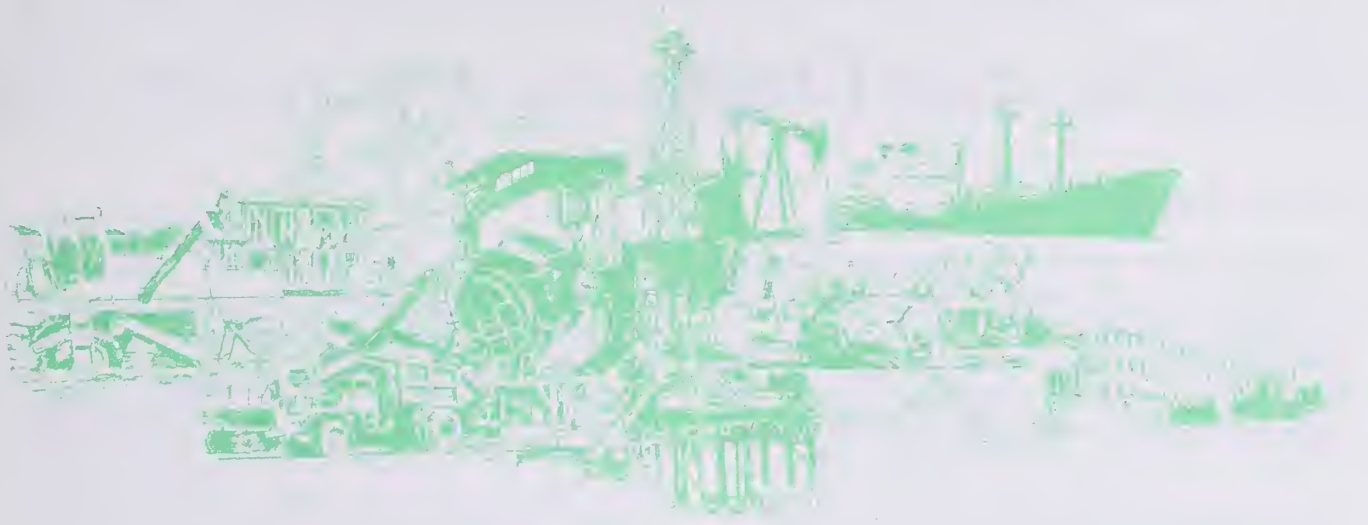
- staff issues at local levels
- ensure information is researched and factual
- coordinate issues through the chain of command
- be realistic, consider the draw-down and budget
- surface issues off-line

For INSCOM:

- ensure information is disseminated after action is taken
- follow up on periodic basis
- be sensitive to issues
- if issues are locally resolvable, why not resolved at that level

Upon conclusion of the AFAP forum the continually heard words were once again emphasized: "care, compassion, concern." Anyone in attendance would have seen these traits exercised by all the representatives as they articulated and emphasized the different approaches to the problems of soldiers and their families . . . and by each delegate who remained receptive and provided positive feedback throughout the two days.





Defense Budget

Budget proves DoD commitment to environment

By F. Peter Wigginton

DoD's budget requests show its seriousness about being an environmental leader, officials said. The department's fiscal 1993 funding request of \$3.7 billion reflects sharp growth compared to the \$2.3 billion requested in fiscal 1991 and \$2.8 billion in 1992.

The department's environmental budget request includes defense environmental restoration appropriations to clean hazardous waste disposal sites. It also includes individual service appropriations, primarily used to meet requirements resulting from current operations, and certain military construction funds. The Base Realignment and Closure account includes money for environmental compliance and cleanup of bases to be closed.

Allocations for the fiscal 1993 request are \$1.5 billion for restoration, \$1.7 billion for compliance and \$500 million to cover base closures. Fiscal 1992 funding for environmental restorations added \$447.5 million to accelerate cleanup activities at specific sites. Of the amount requested for 1993, the department anticipates \$600 million will come from the sale of excess material in the National Defense Stockpile.

To achieve full and quicker compliance, fiscal 1992 funding included a \$431.7 million supplement. The fiscal 1993 program includes sufficient funding to enable the department to comply with increased and accelerated state and local government legislation.

Of the \$6.2 billion fiscal 1993 military construction funding, \$411 million will go to meet environmental construction needs of current operations. Projects mostly fall within the areas of fuels handling, fire training, hazardous waste, waste water disposal and sewage management.

As one official explained, by complying with laws governing current operations, DoD avoids problems that may later require cleanup. "If, for instance, a fuel tank needs to be replaced because it's been identified as one that might leak in the next five years, that would be in support of current operations and would be funded by military construction," the official said.

Fiscal 1992 funding also included a \$162.7 million supplement to accelerate environmental projects at bases being closed. The fiscal 1993 proposal would allow DoD to complete scheduled closings quickly and to save money by making property available to local communities.

Fiscal 1992 funding also included a supplement of \$30 million for increased environmental research and development activities. The amount replaced money previously programmed for other requirements at the Department of Energy. Funding for fiscal 1993 activities is included in the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program. AFIS

Environmental restoration efforts clarified

By F. Peter Wigginton

Environmental restoration actions on DoD land have gotten past the study and test phases and are now expected to move swiftly, according to Pentagon officials.

Officials also said 99 percent of DoD's more than 25 million acres of land is environmentally clean and that remedial actions to clean up the rest—which had been delayed because of complexity, procedures and technology—are now under way.

DoD has also prioritized its resources for restoration of all property and quick cleanup of bases scheduled for closure.

"Our installations are model cities," said Tom Baca, deputy assistant secretary of defense for environment. "There are no cleaner places on this Earth." Baca made his remarks to members of the Regional Reporters Association in Washington, D.C. He led a team of service experts in fielding questions regarding restoration issues.

Regarding cleanup, Baca said, "We've made tremendous progress. Once you turn the services loose on a problem, that problem is going to be solved."

Baca gave three reasons why it has taken so long to clean up the sites. One is the complexity of the situation. "Our installations are literally small cities, with runways, highways, schools and the like," he said. "When regulators evaluate us, they do it as a whole city."

Secondly, he said, red tape has prohibited quick cleanup.

Thirdly, technology often has not existed to effectively handle the problems.

Now that funds and personnel have been dedicated, he predicted "It's going to be solved faster than we projected because we will find the technology." He said DoD spent over \$1 billion in fiscal 1991 to clean up contaminated sites. "We'll be spending approximately \$1.3 billion this year and about \$1.5 billion next fiscal year. Over the last three years, funding has more than doubled."

Baca said 80 percent of problems are caused by fuel and solvents.

Baca said the department's priorities are first, to remove all imminent threats to the human population, then stabilize problems to prevent further deterioration and, finally clean up the sites.

Gary Vest, Air Force deputy assistant secretary for environment, said there is a misconception that DoD is bogged down with getting rid of hazardous waste on installations. "A few of the sites are hazardous," he said. "But it is more accurate to call them contaminated because many of them have to do with fuel tank or system leaks."

With regard to base closures, Baca said the law is clear

that clean land can be sold, but contaminated land cannot. Also, there is no objection to parceling out clean property. So if five out of 100 acres are contaminated, all the clean land, less a buffer zone, can be sold.

For example, added Lewis D. Walker, deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for environment, "in 1989, we sold 3,000 of 3,800 acres of the Alabama Army Ammunition Plant. It required \$2 million to clean it up, and we sold it for \$3 million. We certified the 800 acres we retained would not influence the property we sold. We are now in the process of cleaning up the remaining 800 acres to be sold later on."

Walker said unexploded ordnance generally is a safety issue, not necessarily a contamination issue. But he said the Army does have ranges that have been used so long and restoration cost would be so high that it will be necessary to find some other use for them. Perhaps they can be turned over to firms that can use them for their own testing, he suggested.

Jefferson Proving Ground, Madison, Ind., he said, is a good example of that. "The cost required to restore it far exceeds any benefit," he said. "That's why we're looking at parcels that could be used for a wildlife sanctuary, assuming they're made safe with a surface sweep. The cost to clean down to three feet runs about \$2.5 billion. To go to five feet to render that parcel of about 53,000 acres totally safe in the future so it doesn't work to the surface is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$5 billion."

Elsie Munsell, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for environment and safety, said that of the 242 Navy and Marine Corps installations investigated for remedial action, about 1,500 sites have been identified. To date, the Navy has executed federal facility agreements for 19 of 24 Navy and Marine Corps installations that are on the Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List, commonly known as the Superfund.

She said current estimates for Navy installation restoration will be more than \$2 billion over 10 years. "We will initiate all necessary cleanup by fiscal 2000. We have identified 19 industrial processes that generate over 95 percent of the Navy's hazardous waste."

According to Vest, the Air Force has 4,359 sites it is working on. It has completed cleanup at 100 bases and approximately 90 Air National Guard units, located mostly at civil airports. Within that total, 19 bases are in the process of closing. "We have finished 835 sites. We have 539 sites today in remedial action." He said total projected cost to clean up Air Force contaminated sites by 2000 is approximately \$6 billion.

AFIS

The Constitution is subject of winning essay

By SSgt. Andy Metcalf
766th MI Det, 66th MI Brigade

Throughout 1991, many events were organized to display support of the Constitution and to take time out to reflect on how it has changed our lives through the years.

In keeping with this spirit, the 766th MI Detachment commander challenged each and everyone within the detachment to compose an essay on the Constitution.

Naturally, a little incentive inspired many people to accept the challenge. The competition received an overwhelming response and provided for some fierce competition. Selecting one essay from all the potential winners proved to be no easy task. For that reason, a special committee was formed to judge the entries in order to establish who would be the over-all winner.

After the committee deliberated again and again, they reached a "final verdict" and selected the essay submitted by Chris McLarren as being the most worthy of merit. For his effort, McLarren was the proud recipient of a plaque with a piece of the once-standing Berlin Wall, symbolizing the radical shift toward a more democratic society.

The ideals espoused by the essay gave further testimony to the strength of our Constitution and how it affects not only us, but others around the world as well. Although there was just one winner, all were considered winners for having remembered the Constitution: what it stands for and why it has remained an integral part of our lives. McLarren's winning entry follows.

We the People

of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, We ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME

By Chris McLarren
66th MI Brigade

There has been much extravagant talk about the Constitution during this Bicentennial Celebration and some of it has obscured a basic fact: the Constitution is not a magical thing, and our freedom does not flow from this piece of paper.

Constitutions are just sets of rules. Soviet history teaches us the most democratic constitution—for example, Stalin's 1936 constitution, is just a piece of paper if a people or government ignores it.

No, what makes our Constitution important is that for over two centuries, we have played by these rules and have made this Constitution work. Oh, we had a coup conspiracy or two in the early days and we have been arguing over the meaning of the Constitution since 1787, even fought a civil war over it. We have also changed the Constitution a bit to make it more democratic and practical. But the overwhelming majority has stood by this set of rules and has made it work. The writers of the Constitution made it an interesting document for historians, but it is the American people who have made it an important document for the world.

The Constitution is not only a tool but also a symbol of our love of freedom, our self-discipline, and of our mutual respect for each other, which makes compromise and cooperation and, therefore, democracy possible.

Let us celebrate it then by reading and considering our Constitution and then re-dedicating ourselves to the values which have made it work.

That is worthy of celebration.

DOWNSIZING: Exploring options for the future

By Sgt. Cheryl Stewart
202nd MI Battalion

“Best of the best.” It’s a catch word that is becoming common among military circles as soldiers worldwide discuss the massive downsizing taking place in the Army today.

Despite considerable cutbacks, recruitment of quality soldiers for critically short MOS’s increases in importance and emphasis. It is with this in mind that PROJECT ENLIST (Entry-level Linguist Support Training) was born.

A local Monmouth, New Jersey recruiter, David Kangas, faced with the difficulty of enlisting potential linguists to fill the critical MOS’s in the Military Intelligence field, developed the idea to target entry level recruits from local high schools and community college language classes and make them aware of the opportunities available in the Army for those with a demonstrated ability to learn a language.

Alpha Company, 202nd MI Battalion, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, primarily responsible for enemy prisoner of war interrogation and document exploitation, was asked to assist with the project. The interrogators of the company are all linguists with a variety of language skills.

From several discussions between SSgt. Kangas and 1st Sgt. Robert DeLeon, it was agreed upon that Alpha Company would provide linguists for information briefings to language classes in area schools.

“There are so many qualified people at Fort Monmouth and yet there is a general misconception as to the activities on this post,” Kangas said. “Couple this with the national problem of shortages of language qualified people, I decided to get linguists actively involved with local schools to hopefully expose students to the need and the opportunity for language qualified people in the active Army and the Army Reserve.”

The typical presentation starts with a brief introduction of the linguists and a mock interrogation in language. Then each presenter briefs the class on different aspects of the military intelligence field and the opportunities and benefits afforded those with linguistic abilities and potential.

The reasons Lt. Col. Maurice Williams, battalion commander, supports the 202nd MI Bn’s involvement in the program are threefold.

“Most importantly,” Williams said, “with the Army downsizing and recruiters trying to get the ‘best of the best,’ an opportunity to actively pursue those people that have the type of skill needed in the field of military intelligence will help

ensure that the Army of the future has what it needs—a smaller, but quality, effective force.”

Secondly, he feels the youth of today will be the future leaders of tomorrow, not only in the military but in the civilian sector as well. “Any opportunity we have as soldiers,” Williams said, “to demonstrate patriotism and an appreciation for the values we look for in soldiers is a positive thing.”

Finally, Williams feels that the interaction with the local community helps demonstrate the Army’s concern for the local youth. “We are all ambassadors of our country while we are in uniform,” Williams continued. “Participation in a program such as PROJECT ENLIST is a means of spreading a positive message. We care about the community and the future of the young people in it.”

Kangas emphasizes that the preconceived notions of the community and particularly the young students and their parents presents one of his biggest challenges in recruiting potential linguists to help fill the Army’s requirements.

“It is a constant battle trying to overcome people’s preconceived notions of the military,” Kangas said. “Not all students are receptive to the briefings, we have to prove ourselves to them. It is a continual challenge dealing with people’s perceptions,” he said, “but it is up to me to bring the information about all facets of the Army to the young people and I’ve enlisted the assistance of high quality linguists to help get the message out.”

Alpha Company’s primarily wartime mission can sometimes mean downtime on the job. Days are filled with language maintenance and soldier training, that’s why Capt. Brian Gollsneider, company commander, feels involvement in PROJECT ENLIST is a “great way to utilize the linguists when not otherwise employed.” He feels Alpha Company will continue to support PROJECT ENLIST as long as mission requirements and language availability dictate.

The underlying message delivered to the students is that the Army is filled with a great many, diverse career fields and may be a viable alternative to what some young people feel is a bleak, civilian job market.

Many of the Alpha Company soldiers participating in the information briefings feel this isn’t primarily a recruiting mission but rather an opportunity to pass out more in-depth information about a field the recruiter may not be intimately

knowledgeable about and that is critically in need of personnel.

Sgt. Jeston Hays, one of many A Company presenters, said this type of program portrays a more accurate message of what's available and increases their options for the future. "It gives the students a broader view of the potential for their careers," Hays said. "It lets them know there are more mentally challenging jobs than just those presented in advertisements."

SSgt. Yahya Hajeb, who speaks four languages himself and is a 27-year veteran, 10 years in the Moroccan Army, 17 years in the U.S. Army, said this is a tangible means of passing out the word about the military intelligence field. "The MI field is not advertised, most of what the potential recruits see on television is soldiers fighting," Hajeb said. "This program brings MI out of the dark and makes it a real, viable career alternative," he added.

Information presented to the students ranges from the different jobs available in the military intelligence field that require language training, the length of training and what to expect not only during the rigorous training but once on the job. Each presenter details their military background and highlights their different duty assignments, rewarding experiences and the personal satisfaction they have found.

Whenever feasible, the presenters speak in language to the students, not only to gain experience using the language but to emphasize that the requisite school language courses can have practical applications in the future.

"There are many civilian agencies that utilize linguistic

support such as the State Department, Department of Energy, FBI, and the CIA where military linguistic experience pays off," Hajeb said.

Although each presenter brings their own personal perspective to the presentation, 1st Sgt. DeLeon stresses to his soldiers before they speak to young students the importance of telling the truth. "I tell them not to sugar-coat it; tell them exactly what's involved in terms they'll understand, let them know it's a hard life but that it is rewarding and an alternative to the civilian work force."

1st Sgt. DeLeon said he wished there had been a program such as PROJECT ENLIST available when he was in high school. "I think back 27 years ago when I was in high school. I was confused and impressionable. The Marines came in and I was swayed by the dress blues. They made it exciting for those of us at an impressionable age," he added. "I want our soldiers to portray an accurate picture of what life in the Army, and the MI field in particular, entails."

Practical training experience, community involvement, and recruitment of quality young people go hand in hand to make PROJECT ENLIST an initial success. It appears that as long as language-trained soldiers remain a shortage skill for the Army, SSgt. Kangas and the linguists from the 202nd MI Battalion will continue to support PROJECT ENLIST with the hopes of not only helping young students explore options for the future but to, more importantly, aid the Army in its goal of obtaining the "best of the best" for the smaller, more elite force of the future.



SSgt. David Kangas (left) discusses the job options available in the military intelligence career field to 19-year-old Erin L. Reich, of Little Silver, N.J. Kangas devotes a

great deal of time trying to recruit potential entry level linguists to fill critically short MI field military occupational specialties. (Photo by Sgt. Cheryl Stewart)

"Fit to Win!"

By SFC Cynthia Robertson
730th MI Battalion

Sternocleidomastoid . . . Erector Spinae . . . Gastrocnemius and soleus . . . If you are not familiar with these words then you have never taken a pre-med class or the four week Master Fitness Trainer (MFT) course given by the U.S. Army Physical Fitness School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

I was fortunate enough to attend one of the last resident courses provided at Fort Benjamin Harrison. As of October 1, 1991, the U.S. Army Physical Fitness School was relocated to Fort Benning, Ga. and the only recipients of the MFT course will be individuals whose units are willing to pay four qualified instructors from the school to instruct a nonresident course.

Who can be a Master Fitness Trainer? Is there a rank requirement? Is there an MOS restriction? APFT minimum score requirement?

Anyone may attend the MFT course, provided certain requirements are met. First priority is given to NCOs (staff sergeant and above) and junior officers. Drill sergeants and senior officers receive the second priority.

The class I attended had a rank structure ranging from specialist to captain. Job descriptions also varied—the MOS's held by class attendees included, but were not limited to a physical therapist from the Fort Meade, Md. area, a military intelligence ANCOC instructor from Fort Huachuca, Az., drill sergeants from Forts Knox and Sill, an infantry first sergeant from Fort Shafter, Hawaii, and a chaplain's assistant from Fort Benjamin Harrison. We even had a sailor in our midst!

A soldier interested in attending the MFT course must have a minimum APFT score of 250 within one month of course attendance. An APFT is given the second day of the course and any soldier who fails is sent home. Other requirements include recommendation by a battalion commander or the equivalent. If a soldier has a physical profile that would limit individual participation in physical training, he or she will not be accepted. All soldiers must meet and maintain the minimum standard of AR 600-9.

If you are under the impression that the MPFT course is geared towards physical exertion, you have been misinformed. The MFT course is mainly geared towards academic study. There are a total of six tests: three cumulative written tests, and three hands-on tests that measure your ability to teach someone how to use any Nautilus equipment and perform any given partner-resisted exercise. In addition, you and your designated partner are required to design and present a Unit Physical Training program to the rest of the class.

The intensity begins on the third day of class with the study



of Anatomy of Human Motion. Objectives to be tested on in this area include describing the structural components of a bone and their functions, defining the four functions of bones, identifying the skeletal components to include the skull, vertebral column, shoulder girdle, upper limb, pelvic girdle and the lower limb, identifying types of joints and their movements, identifying types of muscles, various muscles/muscle groups, their functions, anatomical location and relation to skeletal structure, and selecting major muscle groups used to perform various exercises.

All this in the first seven days!

The following three weeks include study in areas such as fitness assessments, flexibility, muscle physiology, exercise physiology, the oxygen transport system, cardiorespiratory fitness, nutrition, circuit training, cardiovascular disease risk, tobacco cessation, etc. . . .

Upon completion of the Master Fitness Trainer course (the most challenging course I have been selected to attend), a soldier earns an ASI of P5 and is prepared to meet two major challenges. The first is to convince commanders that the ideas taught in the MFT course are the way to go when designing a physical training program. The second is to motivate soldiers into wanting to improve their fitness level. If these challenges are met, we will then have an Army that is truly "Fit to Win."

DECISIONS:

Would ETS be the right move for you?

By SFC Cynthia Steele
713th MI Battalion Retention NCO
FS Augsburg

During the next few months, many soldiers will be separating from military service. With that separation, they will face many hurdles as they enter the civilian world. The following article gives one soldier's account of the experiences that he encountered in transitioning from the military world to the civilian world.

"I'll show this Army who needs who," I said. Those were my parting words as I half danced and half marched mockingly down that imaginary "Civilian Avenue" that I'd dreamed of during my three-year enlistment. With papers in hand that read, "Honorably Discharged, September 17, 1991," I left the land of beer and bratwurst.

Sure, the Army had taken me to a place I'd always dreamed of, but all my dreams had become one big camouflage nightmare. And besides, I could always travel, show my ID card and pick up my discounted flight reservations, right? Unfortunately, I had to turn that little green card in when I got out, but, so what, I figured, with the money I'd make as a civilian I'd have all kinds of "charge 'em cards."

Many happy souls ETS from the Army like I did, with faith in the idea that the civilian employment market beckons them with open arms. My perceived beckoning call was that journalistic oasis of radio and television stations and newspapers in my Augusta, Georgia hometown. When the people at the papers gave me that hackneyed, but still used line with a Southern drawl, "We'll call ya'll," civilian reality hit me in my still clean-shaven face like the steaming Georgia heat.

"But, kind sir, you don't understand," I felt like saying to the disinterested interviewers, "All my buddies I ETS'ed with told me you were just waiting for me. Don't ya'll need me?"

I found that employers "out there" only need experience and lots of it. A college degree or two wouldn't have hurt, either. So it was with much humility that I approached some friends who ran a construction outfit—I figured they could help me without asking for much in return—and asked "Do you guys need a hand?"

Now, there is nothing out there that taught me just how much I needed my own hands. I got thumping bruises when I repeatedly missed the nails with the hammer that I was using. After about a month of having those carpentry-caloused hands literally beaten until they were numb, I'd had enough!

Now, don't let me mislead you. There are some decent jobs out there. That's exactly what I found after the carpentry ordeal—some jobs. Because working only one job didn't come close to equaling my old E-4 Army salary, I had to take two

jobs just to survive. The only thing worse than having a job in fast foods is having two jobs in fast foods. It was maddening. All my top secret security clearance got me was a job mixing the secret sauce. When I started to physically drag into the heavenly hamburger place with my fried-chicken house hat on, I knew again I'd had enough.

Oh, yeah, just before I decided to stop working myself to death, my small family of three seemed to be growing larger before my eyes, especially my daughter's feet. The four-year-old seemed to need new shoes on the hour. Shoes that took my wife days to convince me to buy, carried something called a sales tax, along with the cost. "Dear, you pay taxes on things out here, you're not in the Army anymore," she would remind me.

Going back to the Army recruiter after 45 days of being out of the service was difficult in more ways than one. It's hard to figure out what attitude to display—one showing that you've swallowed your false civilian pride, or one displaying pride in being in a place where true opportunity is talked about. That's when the bombshell hit. The recruiter said that the Army generally wasn't taking prior service applicants because of troop reductions, but my name could go on the waiting list to fill the needs of the Army. (That meant I wouldn't get my choice of a job.)

Hope sprang eternal when later in the month the recruiter had me signed up for Special Forces—the only thing currently available to prior service applicants. I thanked him and apologized for almost every recruiter horror tale I'd told.

When you're actually going back to the reception station that second time around, the mind attempts to conjure up all the things you thought you hated about the service. I was having none of that, and I'm sure some of the more apprehensive recruits on the bus wondered why I smiled all the way to the reception station.

As the military service gets smaller, you must decide if you want to be part of our Army of tomorrow. While a smaller Army may result in an improved quality of life and faster promotion, those of you considering separation need to start asking yourself tough career questions now. Review the following list of military benefits as you consider your options: job security, guaranteed pay, quarters, commissary, PX, free medical and dental care, legal assistance, CHAMPUS, financial assistance, wills, dependent education program, paid holidays, military space available transportation, tuition assistance, Army Emergency Medical Relief, just to name a few.

INSCOM Racquetball Team "splats" the competition

By Spec. Randy Neugebauer
INSCOM, DCSOPS

Racquetball is a fast, physical, and aggressive sport that combines basic athletic abilities with smart-shot-making ability to hopefully give you the winning edge. Many soldiers in the military play racquetball because it is a good physical conditioning sport and is relatively easy to learn.

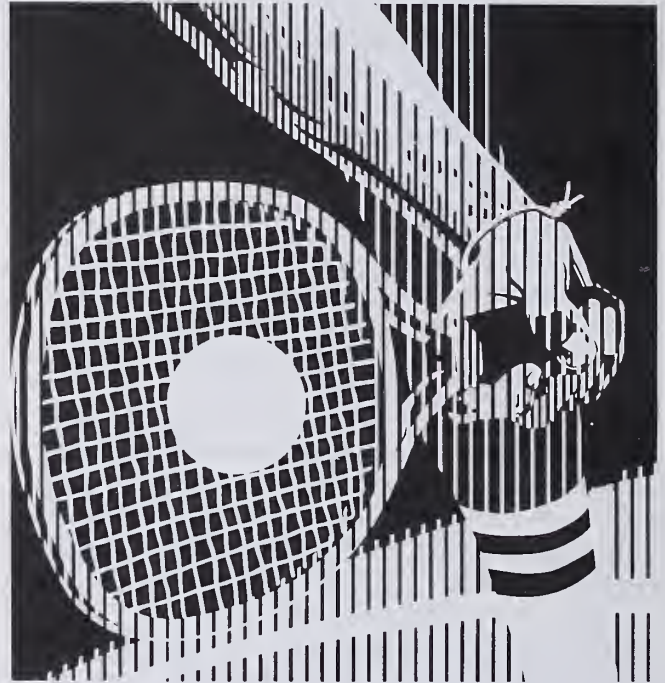
Racquetball started to tail-off around the country in the mid-80s but the desire and participation at military installations continued to grow, giving us some of the top players in the country to date. Racquetball has rebounded in the past few years due to better racquet technology that makes the game easier to play.

In March, Headquarters INSCOM participated in the Fort Belvoir post racquetball championships. Since the team had placed third for the past two years, it was looking to improve over past performances, but that would be a tough task considering the representation of 14 units and a record 132 individual participants. When the courts heated-up and the wood started to burn no one knew what would happen, but when the smoke cleared on Sunday, HQ INSCOM was crowned King-of-the Hill. The team standings had INSCOM first with 82 points, EHSC (Engineering, Housing Support Center) second with 67 points, and HHC, 610th ORD Battalion third with 62 points.

The HQ INSCOM team consisted of 12 members of the unit ready to compete for MI pride. One team member said, "Our main goal going in was to get our 10 participation points toward the Commander's Cup-Trophy competition. We didn't even consider taking home the whole bag of marbles." In the men's 40-and-over category, the only player was Lt. Col. Terry Hill. He finished in third place losing a physically draining match to the eventual champion. Lt. Col. Hill "gives it up"—the body that is. He goes all out on the court, diving like a mad-man to return every shot. As a soldier, when you see someone like him, you say to yourself, "I can work for an officer like that!"

In the men's open division, Sgt. David Jackson, Reserve Affairs Office, captured first place with a combination of power and more power in the final. Sgt. Jackson said, "Coming in, I didn't think my game was up to the task, because I had been struggling in the previous weeks. So I came, concentrating on fundamentals and just trying to have some fun." Jackson had the motivation since he was playing the person who knocked him out last year in the first round!

The match was clean with very few unforced errors—whoever lost this match would have nothing to regret. Sgt. Jackson finally prevailed (15-10, 15-10) in a match that was closer than the score indicates. He stated, "When I was down



10-2 in the second game, I told myself to hit the ball harder and not worry about the score." Luckily, it worked. "In the heat of the battle, you can't think about winning or losing, but you must concentrate on fundamentals and basic application of the task at hand," said Jackson.

In the women's division, INSCOM enjoyed a clean sweep of the top four places. First place went to Sgt. Lori Jackson—a tennis player by trade—her shot-making skills and aggressive nature converted over well to this sport. "My husband teases me about not embarrassing the family name, but I get back by calling him "slow and nice," when you need to be "fast and mean." Sgt. Lori Jackson works in INSCOM's Public Affairs Office.

Maj. Terry Durham placed second, Capt. Karen White third, and Sue Smith fourth. Other participants contributing to the team victory were SSgt. Danny Hudson, Sgt. George Johnson, Sgt. Bill Young, SFC Donald Davis, PFC Matt Ayers, and yours truly, Spec. Randy Neugebauer.

This victory propelled INSCOM into first place in the Commander's Cup standing. We finished second last year to the helicopter jockeys. Our goal this year is first, or die trying. That is what the Army is all about, work hard, play hard, and get involved with unit esprit-de-corps.

DoD offers parents safety tips for kids

By Jim Garamone

Military installations, local communities and children's groups work together to combat child abuse. Since April 1983, their efforts have been recognized across the nation by designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Prevention is the most effective part of the program, said JanaLee Sponberg, an analyst with DoD's Family Policy, Support and Services Office. The themes for activities this year are "Partners in Prevention" and "Winning Ways for Military Families."

There are more than 1.5 million dependent children in the military. About 20,000 of those children were reported in cases of child abuse in 1990, Sponberg said. Almost one-half of these were substantiated.

Prevention is easy. Listen to your children, nurture them, tell them about strangers and what to do if someone bothers them, she added.

A few easy-to-follow child safety tips:

- Take time to listen to your children.
- Know who your children's friends are.
- Take a few minutes out when stress levels get high.
- Use words that help, not hurt.
- Teach your children how to answer the telephone if they are home alone.
- Teach your children not to talk to, and not to accept anything from, strangers.
- Teach your children about secrets and that some secrets need to be told.
- Do not place your children's name on clothing.
- Do not let your children play alone on a playground or go to a public place, like a rest room, alone.

For more details on child safety and abuse prevention, contact your local installation family advocacy office, medical facility, military police or school.

AFIS

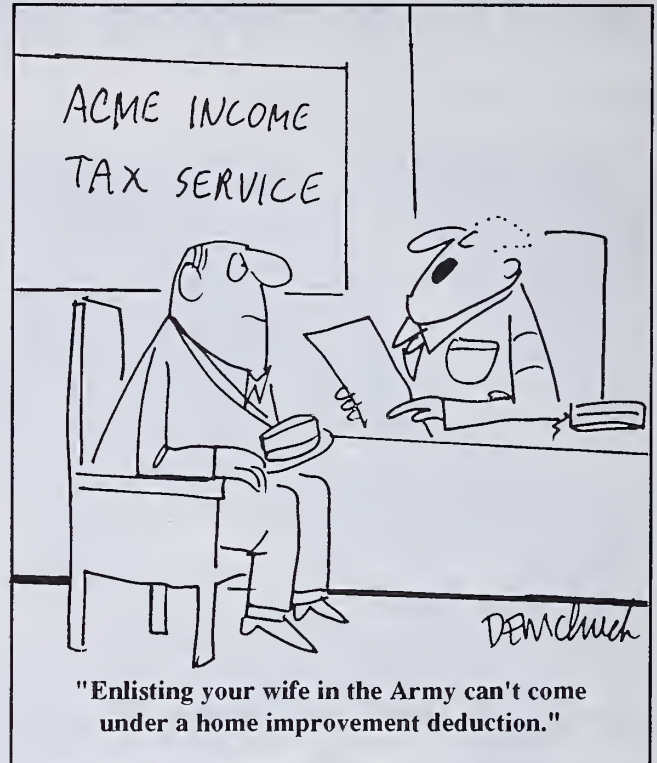


When I joined the Army at age 23, I didn't realize I was that much older than most recruits until we had our first physical-training test. The maximum score for the five events was 500 points, and I was the only trainee in our platoon to get 400.

The drill sergeant called me to stand alone in front of the assembled platoon, and I thought I was about to be praised. But, in turning to the other trainees, he barked, "If that old man can get 400 points, just think what the rest of you should have scored!"

--Contributed by Lt. Col. Jester W. Rawls
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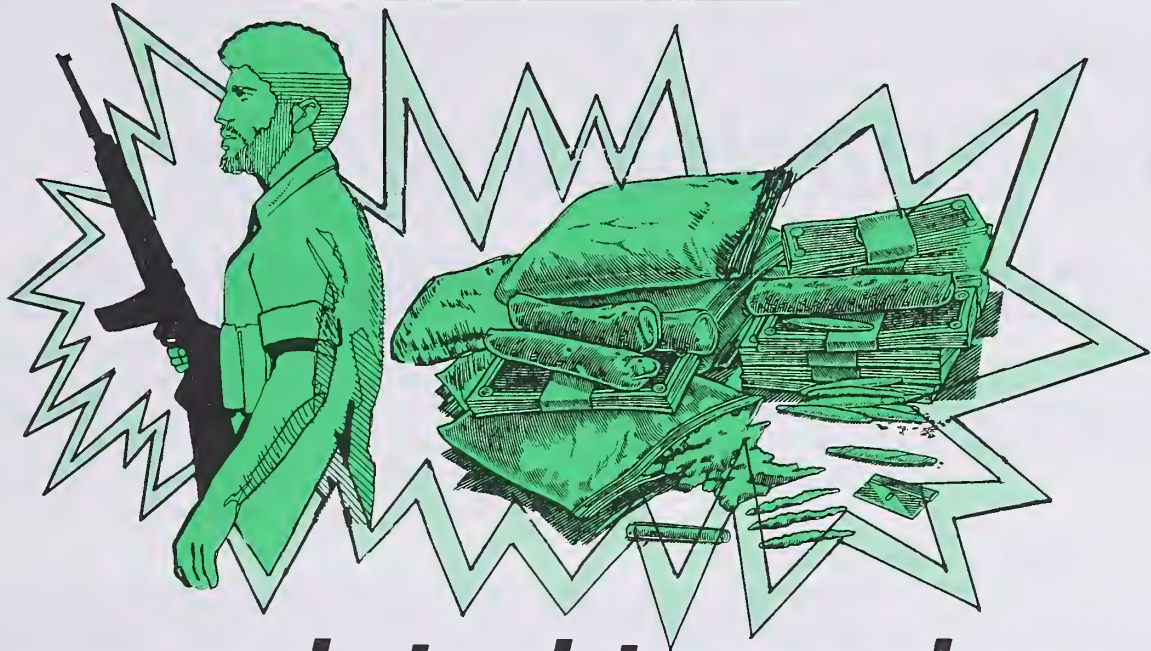


I was once a messenger at the photo lab where I work. As I was leaving a building one day, I was paged on my beeper. Instructed to pick up a package at an unfamiliar company with a 12-syllable, tongue-twisting name, I looked skyward and said, "God, where am I supposed to go?" Just then my pager came on again, this time with the client's address.

A man nearby witnessed this scene. Raising his arms to the heavens, he cried, "Why don't you ever answer me?"

--Contributed by David Dycus
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Drug-related terrorism is on the rise

DCSSEC

Drug-related terrorism may well be the most destructive aspect of international terrorism in the 1990s. Narcoterrorism refers to the linkage between international terror organizations and international drug cartels. This interconnection creates the necessary protection drug couriers need to fight against government assaults on drug operations.

Terrorism in the 90s is not on the wane. The increase in indiscriminate violence associated with terrorism and narcoterrorism is well documented and represents a threatening reality.

One of the unique phenomena associated with international terrorism is that while American citizens and property have been the principal target throughout the world, the use of terrorist techniques in the United States has scarcely been exploited. Among the reasons for this shortfall are good intelligence, professional law enforcement, and barriers to entry. Perhaps the most important factor is the terrorist's ability to strike representatives of the United States elsewhere in the world.

Some will argue that the drug violence occurring in many of our communities is not terrorism. They would be correct if terrorism were only defined as destabilization of a segment

of society by foreign agents. That is certainly the most popular definition in America because we have accepted the theory that terrorism is something done to us by foreign agents.

While foreign terrorist groups are generally assumed to have some infrastructure in place in the United States, only narcoterrorists have an active network of operations already engaged in violence in our communities.

The appearance and character of the terrorist threat to both government and private enterprise has changed during the past ten years. The recurring image of a Middle Eastern terrorist slipping across borders with forged passports has been enlarged to include the indiscriminate violence associated with narcoterrorism.

As intelligence, security, and force protection personnel, we are confronted with a new challenge in order to survive this threat. We must accurately monitor the level of terrorist threat and educate our personnel regarding narcoterrorism. Attempts to categorize and minutely define aspects of terrorism have unfortunately clouded our view of the big picture. Any perceived decline in terrorist activity or violence in the 1990s is merely an illusion.

World War II

The Principles of War in historical perspective

By Dr. John P. Finnegan
INSCOM, History Office

Unity of Command

The principle of unity of command is almost a subset of the principle of simplicity. If the principle of simplicity can be summed up in the adage "Keep it Simple, Stupid," the principle of unity of command has its own aphorism: "Too many cooks spoil the broth."

One should always bear in mind the maxim attributed to Napoleon: "The only thing worse than a bad general is two good ones." The principle of unity of command—the necessity for a single directing mind to be behind the employment of military force—might seem self-evident. However, it is abundantly clear that it is one of those principles easy to violate in practice, not least because politics—whether it be bureaucratic or international—can throw large obstacles in the way of proper execution. World War II provides us with abundant illustrations, both of the observance of this principle and of its violation.

During the course of the war in the Pacific, the Japanese Army and Navy pursued their own separate strategies. The Americans were not much better off. The Pacific was divided into two geographic theaters—one for the Army and one for the Navy. Admiral Chester Nimitz and General Douglas MacArthur each waged his own campaign. MacArthur later charged that "Of all the faulty decisions of the war, perhaps the most unexplainable one was the failure to unify the command in the Pacific . . . It resulted in divided effort, the waste, diffusion or duplication of force, and the consequent extension of the war with added casualties and cost." Of course, as one historian has pointed out, MacArthur wanted unity of command only if he were supreme commander, and his own headquarters, completely dominated by the Army, was not well positioned to direct the Pacific Fleet.

Perhaps the best understanding of the utility of the principle of unity of command, however, can be gained by a com-

parative study of the war in Europe. Despite the fact that Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower headed up the forces of a diverse allied coalition, he had all of the authority he needed to execute a successful invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe. As Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, Eisenhower commanded the land, sea, and air components of the Allied Expeditionary Force, assisted by a completely integrated multinational staff. Additionally, in the crucial months leading up to D-Day, Eisenhower was given operational control of the Royal Air Force's Bomber Command and of the U.S. Army Air Force's Strategic Air Force, allowing him to use strategic air assets to pave the way for the Normandy landing.

The German Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt, Eisenhower's opposite number across the English Channel, enjoyed no such clear lines of command, even though he had only German forces to worry about. Although Commander-in-Chief in the West, with the entire responsibility for defense of France and the Low Countries, Von Rundstedt directly commanded only the combat divisions of the German Army in his area of responsibility. His air and naval components, the Third Air Fleet and Navy Group West, reported back to their separate service headquarters in Berlin. This meant that Von Rundstedt lacked administrative control, not only of his supporting planes and ships, but also of his coast defense troops, who were part of the Navy, and his antiaircraft and parachute troops, who were part of the Luftwaffe. Additionally, Von Rundstedt did not have jurisdiction over the security troops commanded by the German military governors in France and the Low Countries.

Finally, command lines were muddled even within the German Army. Von Rundstedt's nominal subordinate, the commander of Army Group B, responsible for guarding the critical coast between Normandy and Holland, was the pres-

tigious Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, here of the Afrika Korps. As a field marshal, Rommel had the right of direct access to the Fuhrer, allowing him to bypass Von Rundstedt, and Hitler had also made him inspector general of the coast fortifications. Worse, Von Rundstedt and Rommel had diametrically opposing ideas on the operational conduct of the impending battle. Von Rundstedt wished to keep a large central mobile reserve to respond to an Allied landing anywhere around the vast perimeter he had to guard. Rommel felt that the overwhelming dominance of Allied air power meant that this textbook solution was no longer feasible. Air attacks would prevent any reserves from moving up in timely fashion. Instead, Rommel proposed to forward position his Panzer divisions right on the coast and destroy the enemy on the beaches.

The dispute between the two commanders went all the way up to Adolf Hitler. The Fuhrer decided to split the difference, thus ensuring that neither commander would have the assets necessary to carry out his intent. Army Group B was given three armored divisions; the remaining four allotted to the strategic reserve. As a final catch, the strategic reserve was

resubordinated directly to Hitler.

The result of this fragmentation of command became clear on D-Day, June 6, 1944. As Allied troops swarmed ashore on the beachheads of Normandy that morning, Von Rundstedt sought to make an immediate counterattack with the two armored divisions in reserve nearby, Panzer Lehr and the 12th SS Panzer Division. Conditions were propitious: the Allied troops as yet occupied only a narrow beachhead with their backs to the sea, and cloud cover precluded any chances of their receiving air support. However, the decision to release the divisions had to be made back at Hitler's headquarters, and Hitler thought the Normandy invasion might only be a feint. It was not until four o'clock in the afternoon that Von Rundstedt was given his two divisions. By that time, the sky had cleared and the Allied bombers had come back. Pounded from the air, the divisions would not get to the start lines designated for their counterattack for two more days. Germany had lost the battle for the beachhead, and would lose the war. The unity of command enjoyed by the Allied forces helped to make the winning difference.



U.S. troops advance through Brest, France, in 1944. Allied victory in Europe owed much to the fact that all

forces fought under unified command. (U.S. Army photo)

Linguist unit looking for a "few good speakers"

By Capt. David C. Benton

Sgt. Michele Harrison, an Army Reserve Linguist, has discovered she can do something as a Reservist that she couldn't always do while in the active Army — practice her Russian language. "I was trained for transcription," Harrison said, "but I couldn't stay with that technical skill. You'd get sent

"The whole goal of the thing is language training," Harrison says. "You center on your mission. You know what your mission is and you do it."

to some place like Fort Hood, where most likely, you would lose your language."

Now Harrison gets plenty of Russian language as a member of the 1st USAR Linguist Unit. She joined the unit's Charlottesville, Va., detachment while studying at nearby James Madison University. Once she earns her B.A. degree, she plans to put her language to work in a career of government service.

"I'm hoping to have a job where I use Russian on a daily basis," she says. "I eventually hope to be fluent, really fluent."

For helping her to develop that fluency, Harrison credits the atmosphere of the 1st USAR Linguist Unit, which operates like a university language club.

"It's hard to get yourself motivated to sit down and study alone," she explains "whereas in a group like that, it's easier.

"The whole goal of the thing is language training," Harrison says. "You center on your mission. You know what your mission is and you do it." She believes that other Linguists would also enjoy the language unit if they gave it a try.

"By the time I got out of the Army (active duty)," she recalls, "I was so tired of the grind. So were many of the

people I worked with. Some of them were brilliant. Today, they just don't want to have anything to do with the military. If only they realized . . . the atmosphere this unit has!"

For Capt. Mark Benvenuto, a graduate of Virginia Military Institute and a candidate for a PhD in Chemistry at the local University of Virginia, the opportunity to hone his German in the Charlottesville detachment is an adjunct to his studies and the civilian career to which they will lead.

"Traditionally," he says, "chemistry was one of the sciences where it paid to read German. Much of the literature is in German. When I was an undergraduate at VMI, one of the professors said: 'Gentlemen, if you want to get serious about chemistry, learn German.' I did and then reaped a windfall when I was assigned to active duty in Germany."

Benvenuto regularly uses German in his graduate research and recently completed a two week active duty tour as a technical translator with the Army's Foreign Science and Technology Center, also in Charlottesville.

"Companies want people who speak German," he says, "not just for the language alone, but because they combine it with a technical specialty."

More than 100 other Reservists have joined Harrison and Benvenuto in the 1st USAR Linguist Unit. The organization, which was established in July 1988, grew tenfold in its first year and then doubled in size in its second year. In addition to Charlottesville, local detachments are in place in such major population centers as Chicago, Houston, New York, Norfolk, Pittsburgh, San Diego, Tampa and Washington D.C. Organizational efforts are under way in Boston, Miami, and Philadelphia.

The rapid growth of the USAR Linguist Unit has occurred despite the fact that it is a reinforcement training unit, or RTU, in which members drill not for pay, but only for retirement points. Drills are two hours long and take place twice a month, usually on weekday evenings.

The unit is "branch immaterial" and includes representatives of almost all the Army's branches. Many of its soldiers have skills which complement their language capabilities - civil affairs, military intelligence, psychological or special operations. A significant number are Airborne or Ranger

qualified or both. Some use their language in civilian careers in business, investigation, journalism, law, medicine, research, teaching and the arts. A few are fluent native speakers who have emigrated from such countries as Cambodia, Hungary or Romania.

In addition to regular work-outs with language training texts and tapes provided by the Defense Language Institute, members read up on topical military subjects and then converse about them in their languages.

Great lecturers such as foreign military attaches, businessmen, political refugees and visiting professors vary the routine, as do field trips to foreign exhibitions, cultural events and dinners in ethnic restaurants.

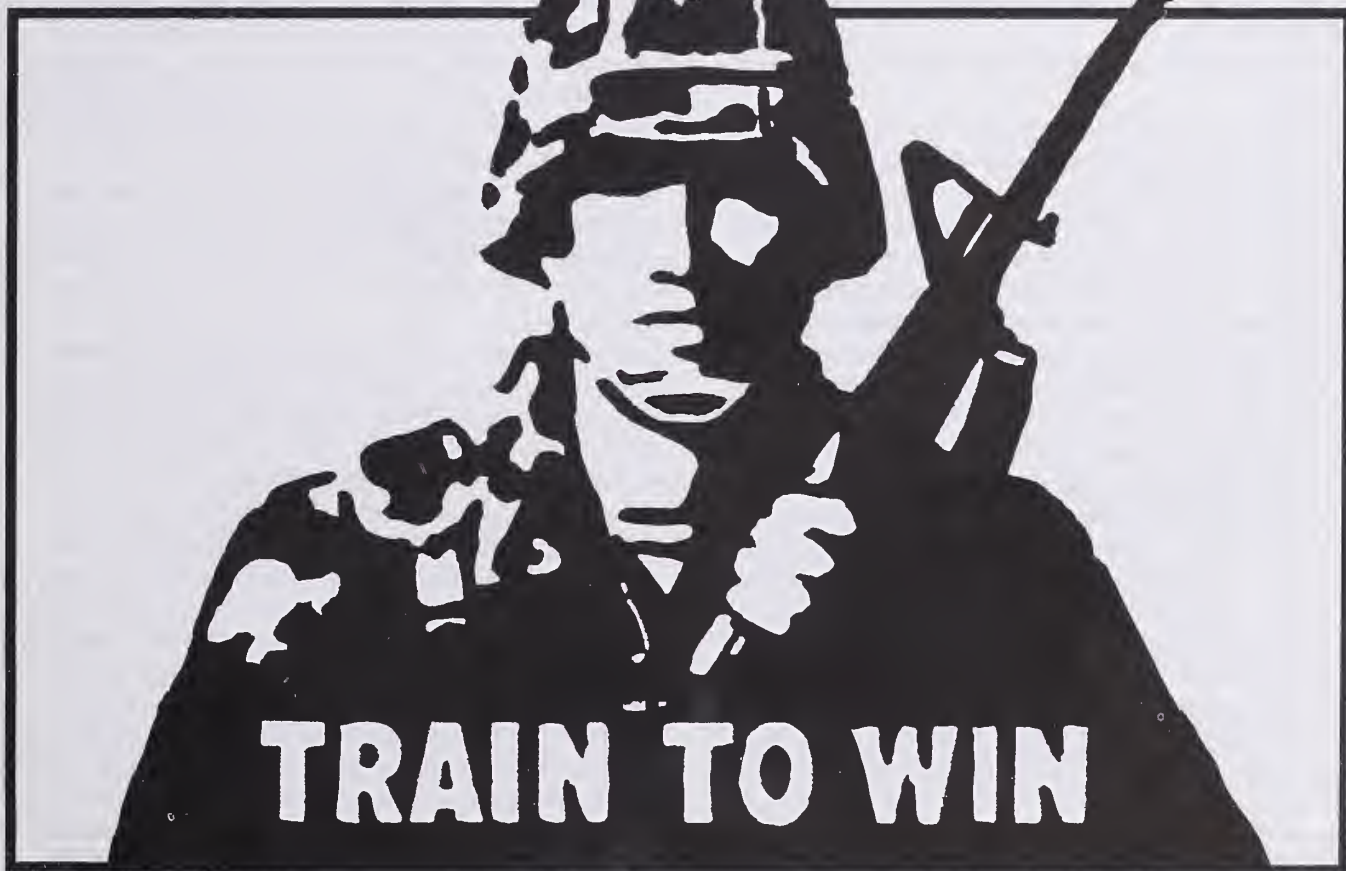
The unit's goal is for each of its members to take the De-

fense Language Proficiency Test annually. The test results at the end of the unit's first year of operation included individual scores as low as 1-1 (elementary) and as high as 5-5 (native fluency). Scores averaged 2-2 (working proficiency).

Despite its newness and relatively small size, the unit has made a start in providing linguist support to other commands and agencies. In addition to the Foreign Science and Technology Center, these have included the Defense Intelligence Agency and Training and Doctrine Command.

Army Reservists interested in joining the unit or forming a detachment in their area should write: 1st USAR Linguist Unit, c/o Defense Language Institute, 1111 Jeff Davis Highway (Rm. 507), Arlington, Va. 22202-4306.

RESERVE TRAINING



Proposed budget affects DoD civilian personnel

"Certain facilities, installations, bases and so on are going to be closed," he said. "When they close, the jobs disappear. There is just no way to avoid it."

By Evelyn D. Harris

By 1997, DoD's civilian work force will decrease by 20 percent from fiscal 1987 levels, according to Defense Secretary Dick Cheney.

The decrease was a part of the fiscal 1993 budget submission.

But he'll ask Congress to give DoD time to do it right—offer people easier transition out while keeping up the quality of both the civilian and military forces.

According to the budget proposal presented recently, by fiscal 1997, the department will employ 904,000 civilians—229,000 fewer than in its fiscal 1987 post-Vietnam peak.

The decrease reflects both shrinking U.S. military personnel levels and DoD management improvements, said officials. By 1997, projected military end strength will decrease from 1987 levels by more than 500,000 in the active component and by more than 200,000 in the reserve component.

Another action in the administration's budget proposal affecting all federal civilians is a delay in the annual cost-of-living raise. The president wants to delay next year's 3.7 percent increase until April. Normally, the raises begin the first full pay period in January.

"We can safeguard the nation with smaller forces," said Cheney. "As much as I'd like to say nobody's going to lose their job, I can't say that."

Ronald Sanders, DoD's principal director for civilian personnel policy, estimated DoD would come down in strength by 45,000 persons this year.

"I think we can do most of this through attrition," said Sanders. "However, there may be spot (reductions in force) at

activities that are being downsized, but we will try to reduce the need for that by offering early outs and other assistance."

Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management and Personnel Christopher Jehn said DoD cannot completely avoid reductions in force. "Certain facilities, installations, bases and so on are going to be closed," he said. "When they close, the jobs disappear. There is just no way to avoid it."

Where positions are eliminated, DoD's Priority Placement Program can help people find another job in the department. In November, the program placed its 100,000th person. Bases facing reductions in force will brief personnel on the program.

DoD officials said the department's baseforce concept acknowledges the changing world order, domestic fiscal constraints and the needs of the new national security strategy. They said planned personnel reductions to achieve the lower base-force levels are proceeding rapidly.

The Persian Gulf war delayed the start of the drawdown, but it has since resumed at an accelerated rate, said Cheney.

In another area affecting DoD civilians, the president wants employees covered under the Civil Service Retirement System to pay 8 percent of their salaries into the retirement fund in 1993 and 9 percent in 1994. The current rate is 7 percent.

Finally, a DoD personnel official cleared the air on President George Bush's call for a freeze on federal domestic employment. He said the freeze would keep domestic agencies at their fiscal 1992 employment levels. It does not affect DoD's more stringent civilian employment controls. **AFIS**



IG

Inspection Trends

By Capt. Cercone
INSCOM, IG Office

In August 1991, the Commanding General approved the Inspector General inspection program for FY 92. The CG selected two subjects for special inspections during the FY; the MICECP/Great Skills Program and the INSCOM Command Language Program.

During the first quarter of FY 92, our inspections division completed the preinspection phase of the inspection cycle. During this phase, we visited MSC's throughout the command and solicited information from commanders, program managers and individual soldiers and civilians. The information obtained during these visits combined with issues developed during our research were briefed to the CG in January 1992. The CG selected those issues he wanted us to focus on during the inspections and provided us with directives detailing his guidance for each inspection. The focus of each inspection is as follows:

MICECP/GS - This inspection will focus on programs, procedures, plans, training and policy guidance concerning the MICECP and Great Skills Programs. Special areas of interest during this inspection will include (but are not limited to):

- Management of MICECP and Great Skills personnel
- MACOM level policy guidance

- Force structure/development
- Administrative and logistical support of MICECP and Great Skills personnel

- Program development/program evolution

INSCOM Command Language Program - This inspection will focus on plans, programs, policies and procedures concerning the INSCOM Command Language Program. Special areas of interest during this inspection will include (but are not limited to):

- Management of language qualified personnel
- Administration of Command Language Program
- Linguist testing, reporting, and tracking mechanisms
- Linguist quality management
- External training program management
- MACOM level guidance and responsibilities

Units to be visited and the inspection schedule are reflected in the Consolidated INSCOM Inspection Plan. Additionally, units will be notified by message confirming exact dates, times and administrative support requirements. Points of contact at the INSCOM IG's office are MICECP/Great Skills Special Inspection - Maj. Ted Swenson (DSN 229-1796); Command Language Special Inspection - Maj. Jack Horn (DSN 229-1740).

Buying land from Uncle Sam

The U.S. government sells hundreds of surplus properties every year. For example, the January-March *U.S. Real Property Sales List* offers seven parcels of unimproved land in Waimanolo, Hawaii.

Also for sale: a two-story, three-bedroom home in Providence, R.I., a residential subdivision in Broken Arrow, Okla., and 43 properties in the Miami area including houses, lots and commercial land.

How the government ends up with the properties is another story. What's important to consumers is Uncle Sam wants to get rid of them. The government generally sells surplus property by competitive sealed bids or public auction. Prospective buyers receive an information package that describes the properties and details the bidding process and sale terms and conditions.

The General Services Administration, which publishes the quarterly property list, usually notifies successful bidders within 60 days of the sale. GSA warns bidders that property is sold "as is, where is." Buyers should personally and carefully inspect the property before bidding. Once a buyer is selected, there is no backing out. All property is sold based on fair market value.

For a free copy of the current property list and the latest *Consumer Information Catalog* listing more than 200 free or low-cost government publications, send your name and address to:

**Consumer Information Center
Dept. 525Y
Pueblo, CO 81009**

AFIS

Replica WWII helmets *not* safe, experts warn

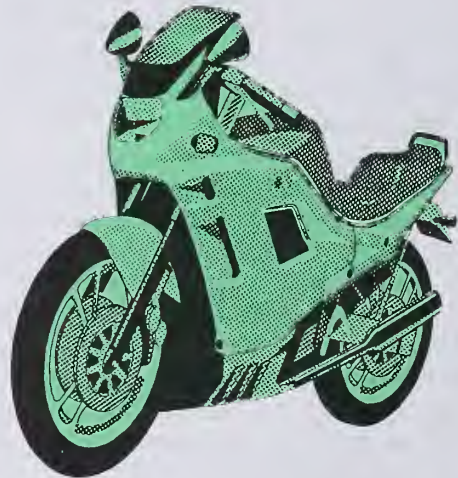
Novelty motorcycle helmets resembling World War II military helmets look good, but they won't protect you, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The safety agency warns the helmets do not meet federal safety standards. Riding a motorcycle without an approved helmet is illegal in many states and puts the rider at risk in case of an accident. An agency spokesman said at least one fatality involved the helmets.

Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, California and West Virginia report sales of the novelty helmets. They are generally light-weight glossy or matte black plastic and have a nylon chin strap riveted to each side. Some helmets are flared at the sides and rear like the World War II German army-style design. All lack the plastic foam liner used in most motorcycle helmets certified by the Department of Transportation.

According to the safety agency, most of the helmets have no markings indicating the maker, size or date of manufacture. They carry no symbol certifying they comply with federal safety standards. Some carry fake symbols.

The spokesman said the helmets flunked agency tests for protection against shock and penetration by sharp objects.



This increases chances of severe head injuries in accidents. The chin strap also proved inadequate. A certified helmet can reduce the chance of a fatal head injury in a crash by 40 percent, officials said.

People with questions about any helmet can call the agency's toll-free safety hotline at **1-800-424-9393** or, in the Washington, D.C., area, **202-366-0123**. **AFIS**

Waiver helps evacuated family members get jobs

By Evelyn D. Harris

The Office of Personnel Management has authorized a waiver helping evacuated family members who worked as DoD civilian employees in the Philippines.

Under Executive Order 12721, an estimated 16,000 family members may be eligible for non-competitive appointments to most government jobs upon their return to the United States, personnel officials said. The employee must have accompanied a sponsor overseas and worked for the U.S. government at least 52 weeks.

Under the program, they can apply directly to any federal personnel office without going through the Office of Personnel Management. The executive order does not guarantee a job, but simplifies the application process, officials said.

The secretary of defense can waive up to 26 weeks of time in service for evacuated family members, making them eligible for placement after only 26 weeks' employment.

DoD personnel officials suggest family members wishing

to verify their status or to obtain more information contact their nearest civilian personnel office. Family members should provide a copy of the evacuation orders, assigning their sponsors to the Philippines, a Standard Form 171 job application and all other documents verifying overseas employment.

Because DoD civilian personnel offices are most familiar with this special waiver, officials suggest that persons seeking federal employment outside DoD contact a DoD civilian personnel office first. DoD personnel offices can also help obtain necessary verification from the Philippines.

Anyone eligible for the waiver is also eligible for the Priority Placement Program, an automated system that helps many displaced employees find new DoD jobs. Evacuees may be eligible for high priority in the program; DoD civilian personnel offices can help them enroll.

AFIS

Federal impact aid to schools may be cut

By Evelyn D. Harris

The president's proposed Department of Education budget for fiscal 1993 may slash the aid local school districts receive for accommodating military family members, from \$727.1 million last year to \$505.5 million.

Congress passed the impact aid law to help school districts affected by federal activity including those with large numbers of military dependents. The law's intent is to compensate school districts for the property taxes lost due to the federal presence.

Dependent children attending its schools determines how much impact aid a district receives. Thus, school districts conduct parent-pupil surveys near the beginning of each school year. Impact aid goes to some 2,500 school districts.

The budget director of one of these school districts said a third of his budget is impact aid, but 70 percent of his district's students are military children. "I don't know what we'd do if the aid were cut—we're having a hard time already," said Jack Berberian of Ayer, Mass., the community outside Fort Devens.

Prince George's County, outside Washington, D.C., receives \$1 million in impact aid, which is a relatively small part of the county's annual \$500 million school budget. Still, said spokeswoman Bonnie Jenkins, a cut in aid would mean having to cut programs.

In most cases, states are prohibited from taking impact aid into account when calculating state aid to the affected school districts. This way, the state cannot substitute federal money for state money.

To cushion the blow from loss of federal impact aid money when a military base closes, a district may qualify for other payments, which are reduced gradually over a four-year period. No school district receives less than 90 percent of the previous year's impact aid funds.

The fiscal 1992 proposed budget also called for significant cuts in impact aid. However, Congress funded the program at approximately the same level as in 1991—\$727.1 million.

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The
Month of the
MILITARY CHILD



Submitted by David L. Jackson, Jr., age 5,
son of Sergeants David and Lori Jackson,
HQ INSCOM.